

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PAULINE KLIEWER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pauline Kliewer for being named "Registered Nurse of the Year" by the Central Valley Coalition of Nursing Organizations. Kliewer will receive the award in the Education category.

In her 30 years as a nursing educator, Pauline has gained a reputation as a strong advocate for nursing education. She has mastered the ability to blend the science of nursing, the art of education, and the importance of relationships into effective nursing education.

Pauline has been an active member of her community. She is a mentor, volunteer, and supporter for the Hope Now For Youth organization. She is a member of First Presbyterian Church, where she has served as a church elder and a Sunday school teacher, Christian education director, and choir director. Pauline is a member of the Nursing Leadership Council and the Chairman of the Paradigm Program. She is also the Central Valley liaison for the Differentiated Practice Research Project.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Pauline Kliewer for being named "Registered Nurse of the Year" in the category of Education by the Central Valley Coalition of Nursing Organizations. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Pauline Kliewer many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A. TROTT

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Robert A. Trott, a former constituent of Michigan's 11th Congressional District. Mr. Trott, enjoying his 74th year on this earth, passed away on October 22, 2001.

Mr. Trott spent most of his life in Michigan before he retired in 1992 and moved to Ohio. He grew up in Rochester and attended the Detroit College of Law. After his graduation, he eventually worked his way up to become senior vice president of mortgage servicing for Advance Mortgage Corporation in Detroit.

In 1976, he founded the Trott & Trott law firm with the assistance of his first wife, Rose, who predeceased him in 1986. It has grown over the years to become one of the largest firms in the Nation conducting residential default procedures. It employs over 250 people representing clients nationwide and is now run by Mr. Trott's son, David Trott.

Robert Trott was committed to his law firm and he was committed to serving his profession; he was a member of the State Bar of Michigan, a member of the Bankruptcy Rules

Committee for the Eastern District of Michigan, and he was chairman of the Servicing Committee of the Mortgage Bankers Association of America.

But most of all, Mr. Trott was committed to his family. As a husband, father, and grandfather, he had a kind heart and gave unselfishly to his family. He used to tell his family that he was always in their corner rooting for them. Mr. Trott taught his finally about many things, but most importantly, he taught and gave them love.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Trott achieved many great goals which has improved Michigan's community, but his biggest contribution was his commitment to his family. I send my prayers to everyone who knew Bob, especially his wife Jo Ann, his son and daughter-in-law David and Kathlenn, and his three grandchildren, Duke, Courtney, and Taylor Rose, during this difficult time.

HONORING MAMA PAT PATRICK

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay special tribute to a woman who has exhibited extraordinary efforts in uniting the Santa Barbara community through music.

On November 10, 2001, the Beacon of Light Foundation honored Mama Pat for her 21 years of community service. Mama Pat founded the Inner Light Community Gospel Choir in 1980 with the goal of introducing African-American gospel music to the Santa Barbara community. Citizens from all walks of life and backgrounds demonstrated a willingness and desire to sing gospel music. The choir is non-denominational and interracial, and has done wonders for bringing diverse cultures together. The choir has been a wonderful way of uniting multiple ethnicities and sharing musical traditions among cultures.

Mama Pat is also a member of the international organization, the Gospel Music Workshop of America, which was founded by the Reverend James Cleveland. She was responsible for introducing the Inner Light Community Gospel Choir to this organization. Since its induction, the Inner Light Community Gospel Choir has performed throughout the United States and Scotland.

In addition to her musical contributions to the community, Mama Pat has also been instrumental in educating the community about African-American history. She worked hard to obtain the Black History Flags that fly along State Street in Santa Barbara every February in honor of Black History Month.

Mama Pat is such a wonderful individual who has made such extraordinary accomplishments in the Santa Barbara community that it is only fitting that we pay tribute to her today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, due to a serious illness in my family, I was regrettably unable to be present for legislative business scheduled for November 6–8, 2001. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes numbered 426–434.

CONGRATULATING NANCY PITIGLIANO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nancy Pitigliano for receiving a 2001 Common Threads Award. This award is presented to women in agriculture who have made a remarkable contribution to their community through volunteer work and philanthropy.

Nancy Pitigliano has worked at the state and federal level to advance the cause of farmers and ranchers in California agriculture. Nancy and her husband, Charlie, operate a custom farming and harvesting company. She is active in the Tulare County Farm Bureau, where she currently holds the office of first vice-president. She has been involved with the Farm Bureau Youth Leadership, California Farm Bureau Federation Water Advisory Committee, California Women for Agriculture, San Joaquin River Coalition, Friant Farm PAC, Breast Cancer Awareness, World Ag Expo, Tulare Les Petit Children's Home Society, Tulare Garden Club, and St. Aloysius Church.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nancy Pitigliano for earning a 2001 Common Threads Award. She has shown outstanding involvement, not only in agriculture, but also in strengthening her community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Pitigliano a bright future and continued success.

TRIBUTE TO RENÉE STEVENS

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable young lady from my State, Miss Renée Stevens. I am pleased to report she is in Orlando, FL, preparing to compete for the national title of "Miss American Coed for 2002."

American Coed State Pageants have been held nationwide annually for the past 18 years to recognize and reward outstanding young

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

women for their past and present accomplishments. Last Memorial Day, Miss Stevens was given the crown and title of "Miss Michigan American Coed 2001." She was judged on poise, appearance, and presentation during interviews and an evening gown competition.

Miss Stevens, a 2000 graduate from Troy High School, will now compete in the National Miss American Coed Pageant. Nationwide, State winners and State pageant finalists will be competing in the 18th annual national scholarship competition to be crowned "Miss American Coed for 2002."

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt Miss Stevens will make Michigan proud by representing her home State. I congratulate Reneé and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

HONORING THOMAS J. SULLIVAN

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to an extraordinary citizen of California's Central Coast, Tom Sullivan. Because of his longtime dedication to the United Way, the organization honored him on November 9, 2001, in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Although Mr. Sullivan has been with the San Luis Obispo chapter of the United Way since 1988, he has served the United Way for over half a century, beginning in 1950 when he was living in Texas. Countless communities throughout the United States have benefited from Mr. Sullivan's dedication as a volunteer, and he recently received a lifetime appointment as the Director Emeritus of the Board of Directors.

In addition to the United Way, Mr. Sullivan has been a board member for numerous other organizations, including the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the San Luis Obispo County Latino Outreach Council, the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Advisory Council, and the San Luis Obispo International Film Festival. He is also a member of the Cuesta College Cultural Diversity Committee, a member of the Community Advisory Group of the Grizzly Academy-CA National Guard, a member of the County of San Luis Obispo Economic Advisory Committee, a Director of the San Luis Obispo County Economic Vitality Corporation, and a Regent of the Newman Catholic Center. And I'm sure that, if possible, this list will only continue to grow until every last San Luis Obispo County organization has benefited in some way from Mr. Sullivan's remarkable community dedication.

Tom Sullivan is a truly extraordinary individual, and I am so proud to represent a citizen of his caliber. He has been a tremendous asset to his community, and I wish him the best of luck in his new position with the United Way. He has truly earned it, and will be an irreplaceable asset to the board.

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL SCHOOL
RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend All Saints Episcopal School from my home town in Lubbock, TX, for their outstanding efforts to help those who were affected by the tragic events of September 11. Due to heightened security issues in Washington, DC, 25 students from All Saints were forced to cancel their school trip to our Nation's capital. Nonetheless, on September 24, 2001, the All Saints Episcopal school chapel held a service and donated the offering to the New York City Relief Fund. All Saints Episcopal was able to make a donation of nearly \$8,000 to the victims' families through the American Red Cross.

This U.S.A. Blue Ribbon School of Excellence is also participating in an ongoing endeavor to raise money for the Afghan Children's Relief fund. More than 10 million children in Afghanistan suffer from the effects of Taliban repressive policies. Over the past 20 years Afghan children and their families have faced war, earthquakes, drought, and poverty. Now, many of them live in refugee camps where there is not enough food and water, or warm blankets to protect them from the cold winds of the brutal Afghan winter. The students' donation to the American Fund for Afghan Children will help feed and shelter children living in this cruel environment.

The students' motivation set an inspirational path which should encourage Americans to continue this humanitarian effort. It is with great pride that I recognize All Saints Episcopal School for their tremendous accomplishments and dedication to the United States.

HONORING MOVSES JANBAZIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Movses B. Janbazian for his prominent leadership in the nation's Armenian community. Reverend Janbazian died in his office on October 25, 2000, of a massive heart attack.

Janbazian was the executive director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, a 30,000 member group that provides relief and missionary service around the world. Janbazian, a native of Anjar, Lebanon, had headed the group since 1987.

Mr. Janbazian was also an ordained pastor and served on the board of trustees at Haigazian University in Lebanon. His work was always done with the best interests of the Armenian community in mind.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Movses B. Janbazian for his life-long dedication to the nation's Armenian community. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Movses B. Janbazian.

TRIBUTE TO LONG BRANCH ELKS
LODGE 742

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I call attention to the chair and my colleagues, a distinguished group of residents from the 6th district of New Jersey. Long Branch Lodge 742 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will celebrate its 100th anniversary on December 8, 2001.

The Elks Lodge has occupied the same small building on Garfield Street in Long Branch since its founding in 1901. The lodge has served the community of Long Branch and hosted gala fairs and many important events in Long Branch's history.

Lodge 742, known as "the lodge by the sea" has served the elite lodge of south central New Jersey since its inception.

Lodge 742 has the distinction of being the lodge to host the first ever reunion of the New Jersey State Elks Association in June 1914. It has hosted a total of over 10,000 participants in events over the past 100 years.

The lodge is much more than a building, more than just a group for historical curiosity, and more than just an address on Garfield Street. The lodge is a representation of the people of Long Branch, its history, society, and longevity. The lodge has had 742 members over its history and has contributed so much to the grandeur and excitement of the city of Long Branch.

Now entering its second century of "Elkdom", I would like to congratulate the Long Branch Elks Lodge, its 372 current members, its city and its people on this momentous occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, had I been present on Tuesday, November 6, 2001, the record would reflect that I would have voted:

On Roll 426, H.R. 768, On Motion to Suspend the Rule and Agree to Senate Amendments, Need-Based Educational Aid Act, "yea."

On Roll 427, H.R. 1408, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Financial Services Antifraud Network Act, "yea."

On Roll 428, S. 1447, On Motion to Instruct Conferees, Aviation Security Act, "yea."

Had I been present on Wednesday, November 7, 2001, the record would reflect that I would have voted:

On Roll 429, H.R. 2998, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Radio Free Afghanistan Act, "yea."

On Roll 430, H.R. 852, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, Nathaniel R. Jones and Frank J. Battisti Federal Building and United States Courthouse Act, "yea."

On Roll 431, H.R. 3167, Gerald B.H. Solomon Freedom Consolidation Act, "yea."

On Roll 432, H. Con. Res. 262, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Negotiations to Be Held at Doha, Qatar, "yea."

I was unable to return to Congress on November 6th and 7th due to pressing matters in my district.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA
YAROSLAVSKY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. BERMAN and Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are honored to pay tribute to our good friend of many years, Barbara Yaroslavsky. Barbara is being presented the prestigious Tzedek (Justice) Award on December 2, 2001 by the Labor Zionist Alliance in Los Angeles. We cannot think of a more deserving recipient of this award.

Barbara has a long and remarkable history of philanthropy, community service and as a strong voice for education and health care rights. When Barbara volunteers to sit on a board or task force, she doesn't just show up. She actively participates and often finds herself leading the group, always compassionately and wisely.

Barbara has served for the last six years on the Mayor's Task Force on Volunteerism. Last year she also worked as a consultant on several successful educational projects for the Host Committee, which brought the Democratic Convention to Los Angeles.

Barbara is a fierce advocate for education and has served as vice president for the Bureau of Jewish Education. Barbara also serves on the board of LA's Best, a nationally recognized organization for after school programs in 101 schools throughout Los Angeles. She is a member of the task force of Koreh L.A., the literacy program of the Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC). She is active on the Undergraduate Student Scholarship Committee at the University of California at San Diego. She is committed to bringing every child a stimulating, challenging, and quality education.

Barbara is equally committed to access to health care, which she believes is a right, not a privilege. She is an active member of the Friends of the LA Free Clinic and co-chairs its president's council. The Los Angeles Free Clinic is a vital asset within Los Angeles' health care system, serving over 50,000 clients. Barbara has seen to it that the clinic maintain its strong presence in the community in this uncertain time of health care availability.

The Tzedek Award honors Barbara for her legacy of community service and her passionate work on behalf of the Jewish community. Barbara chairs the Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California and recently led an important mission to Sacramento to meet with elected officials on legislative issues including charitable choice, gun control and affordable housing. She is also a member of the administrative committee of the Jewish Labor Committee and participates in the Latino Jewish dialogue.

We are honored to call Barbara Yaroslavsky our friend, and we ask our colleagues to join us in recognizing her distinguished record of accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF AMERICAN
VETERANS

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the veterans of this great land. In 1918, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the eleventh month, the world rejoiced and celebrated. After four years of bitter war, an armistice was signed. The "war to end all wars" was over. A year later, Armistice Day was declared in the United States, to remember the sacrifices that men and women made in order to ensure a lasting peace. Later this holiday was renamed Veterans' Day, and while it has traditionally been a day of parades and speeches by politicians, this year it means much more than that. This day is America's chance to thank those who have protected them, even when the threat against the homeland was not so clearly defined. This day is America's chance to honor those who lost their lives in service to our nation. This day is America's chance to unite behind the men and women who are now wearing the uniform that generations of heroes wore before them.

As our nation's 1.3 million active servicemembers fight this war, let us not forget that thousands of our nation's veterans are dying each day. Congress has made some great strides on behalf of our veterans this year. Since January, the House has passed legislation that will benefit the 2.3 million disabled veterans or survivors of disabled veterans, increasing their benefits by \$2.7 billion. We have expanded the available hours of the VA's toll free information service. We have expanded health and life insurance coverage for surviving dependants of veterans, and we have provided \$550 million over the next two years to repair and renovate VA medical facilities. Finally, we have increased GI Bill educational benefits to qualifying servicemembers by 70%.

We are on the right track, but we need to keep pressing forward. We need to make a real effort to make progress on remaining issues. Implementing concurrent receipt, making further improvements on military retiree health care, cutting the red tape for veterans claims. Our veterans sacrificed their lives and liberties. We should make every effort to show our gratitude by taking action on the issues that concern them. I appreciate all the hard work of our leadership and our Veterans Affairs Committee members, and encourage my colleagues to join in this important effort.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFELONG
DEDICATION TO CHILDREN OF
ANI "MICHELLE" TWITCHELL

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of one of my constituents, Ani "Michelle" Twitchell, who has used her life experience to impact the lives of numerous young people. In fact, it is safe to say that she has dedicated her own life to the improvement of all young lives.

Ms. Twitchell has recently composed a book, in which she assumes a necessary task in these troubling times. Her book, titled "What Happening," addresses the questions preschool age children may be asking their parents and teachers in the face of the Nation's crisis. A press release reads, "[Twitchell] mentally imagines herself in the classroom telling stories about police sirens, fire engines and ambulances to her young pre-schoolers and answering their questions." Far from opportunities, the book's theme represents a profound love for children and a desire to inspire strength in the midst of confusion.

I am hardly surprised that Ms. Twitchell has taken on such a task. As I stated, her life's path has led her to an unmatched level of dedication to children's education. She grew up in Princess Town, Trinidad and Tobago, in a family of six children, where she was consistently called upon to act as a parent. At the age of 20, she was widowed with a five month old son. Seeking a better life for herself and her child, she came to this country wishing to raise all children as healthy and strong individuals.

At present, her story finds her as a teacher and Health and Safety Coordinator for the Kindercare facility in Germantown, Maryland, with three beautiful sons, aged five and seven and eighteen. She has long dreamed of establishing a boarding school for abandoned children. Perhaps her book will serve as a stepping stone to the realization of this dream.

War and terrorism are more than evils to be fought with intelligence and weapons. They are frightening strangers in the minds of young children, which we have disburbingly little ability to explain in terms familiar to pre-schoolers. Neither public condemnation nor news coverage provide meaning for our young. While we are all affected in these times of terror, only our children lack the life experience to help them through their fear.

I am proud of Ms. Twitchell, I am thankful for her words, and I believe we are all blessed by the love in her heart. Please join me in thanking Ms. Ani "Michelle" Twitchell for her unmatched contribution to our children's wellbeing.

GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE OF
GINNIE MAE AND FREDDIE MAC

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, as the Vice Chairman of the Capital Markets Subcommittee of the Financial Services, I wanted to join in the concern expressed by the Subcommittee Chairman RICHARD BAKER about a proposal to expand the government guarantee provided by Ginnie Mae (the Government National Mortgage Association) into the conventional mortgage market.

Last week H.R. 3206, "The Home Ownership Expansion and Opportunities Act of 2001," was introduced in the House of Representatives. While I strongly support the spirit and intent of this proposal, I am deeply concerned that the unintended consequence of the bill will be to make the American Taxpayer liable for unnecessary risk in the event of an economic downturn.

Over the past few years, under the leadership of Chairman BAKER, the Financial Services Capital Markets Subcommittee has spent considerable time examining the potential of an "implied" government guarantee of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. I am concerned, because H.R. 3206, as introduced, would expand the express government backing of Ginnie Mae into the conventional home loan market. This could place American Taxpayers at a greater risk of assuming more default risk for home mortgages.

Our housing finance system is the model of the world. Combining the conventional mortgage market, the government market of FHA and VA, and the jumbo market, the national homeownership rate is close to 68%. The housing sector is the bulwark of the economy and I am very willing to consider good public policy to help more Americans achieve the dream of home ownership. I worry, however, that H.R. 3206 is an unnecessary expansion of a federal government guarantee that inappropriately puts American Taxpayers at risk.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON H.R. 2620, DEPARTMENTS OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2001

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to the VA-HUD bill. My frustrations concerning NASA's international space station and its ongoing budget woes have been echoed by the independent Management and Cost Evaluation Task Force. This panel recently reported to Congress that the space station is faced with crippling cost overruns.

Congress almost got it right in 1993 when the space station survived by just one single vote. We recognized then that NASA could not afford the station. In the years that followed, this behemoth has squeezed the budgets of the so-called "smaller, faster, cheaper" missions. Not since the Hubble Space Telescope repair and the Mars Pathfinder missions has the American public been rewarded by the fantastic discoveries offered by our space program.

Now the independent task force has told us that overall management of the whole program and its total costs has been inadequate. As a result of budget overruns and schedule delays, NASA must reorganize the entire space station program, redefine the scientific objectives and drastically cut spending to keep the current three-person crew financially feasible. The panel further reported that plans to complete the basic U.S. part of the station over the next 5 years with the \$8.3 billion allotted to the program are not credible.

No one has a good estimate of how much the space station will cost. GAO estimated years ago that it would cost American taxpayers more than \$100 billion to build and operate over its lifetime. Now it is clear that there will be no worthwhile scientific research to show for it. The station's eight original sci-

entific research objectives are gone along with the crew return vehicle, which might have allowed an adequate number of crew members to conduct research.

Regardless, the station is now limited to a crew of only three—the number of astronauts that can fit inside a Russian Soyuz re-entry vehicle. That is why Europe, Japan, Canada and other international partners will not be able to conduct research. Instead, they will spend their time simply preserving and keeping in orbit a behemoth that can't afford the manpower to yield any new meaningful science.

I am also concerned that this bill comes up short on critically important housing programs that serve this country's most vulnerable citizens and families. Many accounts within the Department of Housing and Urban Development are simply zeroed out under this legislation. For example, the Public Housing Drug Elimination Grant program has been eliminated. Funding for empowerment zones is cut by 78 percent, public housing modernization by 5 percent, and community development block grants by 2 percent.

Mr. Speaker, additional cuts to distressed public housing revitalization and fair housing and equal opportunity activities will not help alleviate the shortage of adequate housing in America's inner cities and rural areas. I cannot support efforts to cut off poor and rural families from finding decent housing in these areas.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM
MCFARLANE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William (Bill) McFarlane for receiving the 2000 Agriculturist of the Year Award. The award is given by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce to an individual who exemplifies leadership and integrity in California's Central Valley agricultural business community.

Bill McFarlane is a native of Fresno. He grew up on a small farm near Clovis. In 1948, McFarlane and his father formed a farming partnership and expanded their farming operations. His family currently continues to operate the farm, which has about 1,000 acres of almonds, oranges, and wheat. McFarlane and McFarlane also own a farm in Butte County on which rice is the principal crop. Their family farming operations was active for 25 years in western Fresno County, producing almonds, tomatoes, cotton, garlic, melons, and lettuce.

Bill is currently a member of the Advisory Committee for the Clovis Unified School District's Reagan Educational Center Agriculture Department. He also serves on the Friends of Agriculture Extension for the University of California Cooperative Extension. He is a past chairman of Blue Diamond Growers and a previous president of the Central California Almond Growers Association.

McFarlane is a past recipient of the Special Recognition Award from the Fresno County Farm Bureau and the Co-op Farmer of the Year from the Agricultural Council of California.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate William McFarlane on his 2000 Agriculturist of the Year Award. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. McFarlane and wishing him many more years of continued success.

COMMENDING VETERANS OF
SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the outstanding veterans we are so fortunate to have in our community in Sussex County, New Jersey. On Saturday, November 10, 2001, a County Salute to all Military Veterans from Sussex County will be held at the Sussex County Fairgrounds. On this day, we will honor the veterans of Sussex County and celebrate the spirit of those who have fought so bravely to preserve our tradition of democracy.

As Veterans' Day approaches, the eyes of the nation turn to the service and sacrifice of those who serve. As a nation, we owe these men and women our gratitude. I believe that the government has made solemn promises to its citizens who served in the armed forces that must be kept! I believe that Congress must make sure that this promise is not broken. By ensuring that we maintain a system of reliable, effective and compassionate benefits, this nation both keeps its promise and honors veterans.

In my 22 years in the House of Representatives, I have kept in close contact with our veterans of New Jersey. And I have learned that none of the legislation we pass in Congress can provide real assistance to veterans if our veterans do not know these benefits exist.

That is precisely why I have cosponsored the Veterans Right to Know Act. This bill requires the Veterans Administration (VA) to inform veterans about eligibility for benefits and health care services whenever a veterans first applies for any benefits. In my conversations with veterans and veterans' leaders, this legislation is a top priority.

In addition to this bill, the Congress has taken important steps in keeping our promise to veterans. This June, the President signed into law our Veterans' Survivor Benefits Improvement Act. I co-sponsored this bill which created new life insurance and health care benefits for up to 2 million eligible spouses and children of veterans.

I strongly supported the 21st Century Montgomery GI Bill Enhancement Act which we passed in the House. This bill increases the Montgomery GI Bill education benefit by 70 percent over the next 3 years and raises the value of VA education benefits from \$23,400 annually to \$39,600.

I have co-sponsored the Veterans Hospital Emergency Repair Act which authorizes \$550 million over two years for much over-due-repair of dilapidated and obsolete Veterans medical facilities. This bill was also strongly supported in the House.

And just this week, on Thursday, November 8, 2001, the House and Senate both approved of the final appropriations for veterans for the Fiscal Year 2002. This budget increases the total spending for VA programs by \$4.3 billion,

including a \$1.2 billion increase in VA health care. There will also be a 16 percent boost in funding for the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) to remedy the backlog of compensation claims as well as an additional \$300 million for the Veterans Hospital Emergency Repair Act. I am proud that Congress could pass this legislation before we return to our districts to honor our veterans.

There can be no compromise when it comes to our veterans. Defending the Constitution of the United States is the greatest duty the nation can ask of its citizens. These men and women answered the call to duty and performed it to the highest standard. I will do everything in my power to ensure that the promises made to our veterans are kept.

Today we must prove to the world our commitment to preserving peace and democracy. We are showing the world the pride we have in our country and the values that we hold dear. It is because of our veterans that we have this tradition of freedom. They defended the idea so many years ago. They fought and sacrificed to ensure our peace. They are the inspiration which keeps the dream of democracy alive for us and everyone around the world. And this weekend in Sussex County, we bring this point home as we honor the heroes in our midst. Let us renew the dreams and the spirit of brotherhood that brought this nation through more than two centuries of struggle and kept it vibrant and free.

Finally let me state as clearly as I can: I am committed to ensuring that Congress will take all appropriate actions to ensure that our veterans are properly supported. They were there when the nation called; now we must be there when they need our help.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Veterans of Sussex County, New Jersey, that will be recognized this weekend at the County Salute to all Military Veterans from Sussex County. And I urge my colleagues to join me in keeping our promise to our nation's heroes—our veterans.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROMANO PRODI, PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND HIS REMARKS TO THE CYPRUS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on October 25, Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission, spoke before the plenary of the Cyprus House of Representatives while on a two-day official visit to Cyprus.

During his speech, Mr. Prodi stated that Cyprus will join the EU and will be among the first candidate countries to do so. As a strong advocate of Cyprus' accession to the European Union, I believe that Cyprus' accession would be good for the stability of the region, as well as for the prospects for serious and good faith negotiations between the parties in Cyprus.

To that end, I am honored to submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the introduction and

text of Mr. Prodi's historic speech to the Cyprian House of Representatives.

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MR. DEMETRIUS CHRISTOFIAS

It is with particular pleasure and great excitement that I have the privilege to welcome to the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus the President of the European Commission Mr. Romano Prodi.

Mr. Romano Prodi is a distinguished personality of international calibre who has associated his name with the steady furtherance of the cause of European integration. At the helm of the European Commission since 1999 the systematic and principled culture on his part of the European voice effuses common values, beliefs and civilization originating from our common European heritage.

Your visit to Cyprus, Mr. President, is taking place at difficult times which humanity is experiencing in a tragic way today. It is comforting to note that with your firm positions you have struck the right note and given the right way of addressing terrorism by making clear that the reaction of the international community, with which the Cyprus Republic has aligned itself against terrorism, is not a war against cultures or a conflict of religions. It is imperative that the European Union oppose a united world of peace, democracy, equality, prosperity and international understanding and solidarity with Man in its epicentre against every sort of terrorists.

The Cyprus Republic believing unwaveringly in the future of Europe continues its efforts firmly and decisively for the harmonization of its national legislation with the *acquis communautaire*. The Cyprus Parliament plays its own part and faces with responsibility as a first priority the harmonization process. Our progress in our accession negotiations is due to a great extent to the common effort of all the political powers in Cyprus but also to the general support offered by public opinion. These efforts made by Cyprus but also the proven dedication to democratic institutions and European ideals and principles are acknowledged and clearly recorded in the latest progress report by the European Commission on Cyprus.

As regards the process for the solution of the Cyprus problem, I would like to emphatically stress that the President of the Republic participates with the support of the National Council in the effort under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General with all goodwill for the solution of the problem on the basis of United Nations Resolutions and the High Level Agreements. I would like to underline that our expectation is that a united Cyprus join the European Union. I would like at the same time, however, to point out that our will must not be misinterpreted. It is not possible for Cyprus to accept the absurd demands made by Turkey and the Turkish occupation leader Mr. Denktash which are followed by threats. Especially his unrealistic claim for a direct or an indirect recognition of the occupation regime as a state entity just to reach a settlement to the Cyprus problem.

I would like to avail myself of the opportunity of your presence here, Mr. President, to express the warmest thanks on behalf of the Cyprus people for the firm promotion by the European Commission of the provision of the Helsinki Summit decision which envisages that the solution of the Cyprus problem is not a prerequisite for the accession of Cyprus to the European Union as well as for the conviction that Cyprus will become a mem-

ber of the European Union during the first wave of enlargement.

With these few thoughts, Mr. President of the European Commission, I welcome you once again to the Cyprus Parliament.

SPEECH BY MR. ROMANO PRODI, PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

In these changing and difficult times, I was particularly moved at being invited to speak today to the elected representatives of the people of Cyprus. For democracy is at the heart of our system of government in Europe.

Democracy is the guarantee not only of human rights and fundamental freedoms but also of security, stability and well being. Especially at the present time, when the international community faces so many challenges.

The European Union is a community of law and, you, the legislators of Cyprus, are working every day to ensure that your country becomes part of this community and strengthens it.

This is all the more important in the light of the appalling attacks on the United States on 11 September.

The European Union has expressed its solidarity with the innocent victims and is contributing vigorously to the fight against terrorism.

Cyprus, like the other candidates for EU membership, immediately expressed its abhorrence for those attacks and aligned itself with the EU position on terrorism and the operations to eliminate it.

But deeds are even more important than words. Cyprus has taken practical measures to combat illegal arms sales and transshipments and to freeze funds that might be used to sponsor terrorism. These, and the other steps taken by Cyprus since 11 September, are deeply appreciated in the European Union. Recent events vividly bring to mind the *raison d'être* of the enlargement process, and indeed, of the European Union itself.

The European Union exists to put an end to the conflicts of the past and to bring peace, justice and well being to our peoples.

It has achieved this to a remarkable extent over almost half a century. Today, peace, justice and well being are steadily being spread throughout Europe as preparations for enlargement go ahead.

This enlargement will benefit not only the old and new member states but also neighboring countries, with which we have close ties. No new dividing lines will be drawn across our continent. Indeed, each new candidate will bring to the EU its own political, economic, cultural, historical and geographical heritage, thus enriching Europe as a whole.

Cyprus's own heritage includes a tradition of good public administration, a vibrant economy, the talent and creativity of its people and the close links they have established in the Mediterranean region and beyond.

The flow of benefits is, of course, reciprocal. The European Union will bring to Cyprus a model of peace and reconciliation, the freedom of the single market and a set of institutions and policies that meet the needs of all member states.

However, those institutions and policies need redesigning to enable them to

meet the challenges of the twenty-first century. Next year, Cyprus—together with the other candidate countries and the existing Member States—will be taking part in a structured debate on our future policies and how best to run the Union. “Who should do what” is one of the key questions.

The debate will lead to a new Inter-Governmental Conference in 2004, and Cyprus will already be invited to join in preparations for that IGC.

Another key issue in the great debate is how to involve Europe's citizens more closely in designing and implementing European policies. After all, the European Union exists for its citizens and must be built by them.

In particular, we need their support for enlargement. People naturally fear the unknown, and political leaders (both in existing member states and in the candidate countries) should take time to explain to the general public why enlargement is in everyone's interest.

It will boost not only economic prosperity but also political security and stability in Europe. We must spell this out to our citizens, who may be perplexed by the technical nature of the accession negotiations.

Cyprus is advancing well in these negotiations. This is above all a reflection of your own efforts as legislators in putting into place a system of laws containing the same principles and provisions as European Union law.

Parliament is working expeditiously and your fast-track procedure for transposing EU laws and rules, the “acquis”, is a model of its kind, on which I congratulate you.

It is thanks to your efforts, and to the efforts of your government and negotiators, that Cyprus is amongst the frontrunners in the accession process.

Your country's preparations for membership must continue to be pursued vigorously. A number of politically or technically difficult issues such as taxation, competition, agriculture, justice and home affairs still have to be resolved. Further legislative work must also be done in some fields on which negotiations have been provisionally concluded, such as telecommunications and the free movement of goods.

We are aware that you are planning a major tax reform, partly aimed at adapting your tax regime to the EU system. We will follow with interest the progress of the reform legislation through this House.

Of course, passing the necessary laws is not the end of the story: those laws also have to be implemented effectively in each candidate country. Monitoring the candidates' progress in this respect is, of course, the Commission's job. But, as you know, the existing Member States are also closely following this progress, particularly in sensitive areas such as the environment, maritime transport, competition and the prevention of money laundering.

I am personally very pleased to see the high degree of consensus Cyprus has achieved on the transposition of EU law. It is a sign of your country's healthy democracy that there is genuine diversity of political views and genuine competition between political parties, yet there is also underlying agreement on fundamental principles. This unity in diversity is the very essence of politics and society in Europe today.

Diversity is of course one of main characteristics of Cyprus. It is a source of richness

and of pride but it has also, over the years, been a source of recurrent conflict. The European Union lends its full support to efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem and salutes in particular the continuing work of Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary General, and his special representative, Alvaro de Soto. The European Union would be delighted if their efforts were to bear fruit before enlargement, though—as you know—this is not a pre-condition for Cyprus's accession.

How inspiring it would be for Europe, and for the world at large, if Cyprus were to heal its wounds and if Greek and Turkish Cypriots were to enter the European Union together on the basis of a settlement which took into account the interests and concerns of all parties!

The United Nations, and others working towards a settlement, are well aware of those concerns. In the months since the proximity talks were, alas, suspended, they have been working hard in the common interest of all citizens of Cyprus. We were disappointed that the Turkish Cypriot leadership did not accept the UN Secretary-General's invitation to resume talks in September. Despite these disappointments, however, the UN is persevering in its efforts and the European Union gives them our full backing.

I very much welcome the recent improvement in relations between Greece and Turkey and hope that this will facilitate the search for a settlement of the Cyprus question. I am profoundly convinced that a settlement is within reach.

Let me stress that the European Union, with its *acquis*, will never be an obstacle to finding a solution to the Cyprus problem. The European Union never seeks to determine the constitutional arrangements or the security arrangements of its member states. Such matters are up to them.

I am confident that the European Union can accommodate whatever arrangements the parties themselves agree to in the context of a political settlement. As an EU Member State Cyprus will of course have to participate in the Council of Ministers “with one voice”.

The European Commission is seeking to broaden understanding of the *acquis*, and related issues, throughout Cyprus. Given a political settlement, EU membership will bring benefits to all Cypriots and in particular will enable those in the northern part of the island to catch up rapidly in terms of economic performance and living standards.

Following a settlement, both Greek and Turkish Cypriots will participate in the work of EU institutions, helping run the Union and shape its future.

Meanwhile, projects involving both communities on the island can address specific problems, dispel misconceptions and improve understanding.

Projects of this sort deserve the active support of all political leaders. They also demonstrate in practical terms the commitment of the people of this island to overcoming the problems of the past and reaching a settlement.

There is a window of opportunity now for Greek and Turkish Cypriots to reach an agreement before Cyprus's accession. Every effort should be made to take full advantage of this opportunity. History would not look

kindly on those who knowingly let this opportunity slip.

A political settlement before Cyprus's accession is our strong preference. But let me make one thing clear. Cyprus will join the European Union, and it will be among the first candidate countries to do so.

The timetable is set out. We are aiming to complete negotiations with all countries that are sufficiently prepared by the end of next year, with a view to accession in 2004. We hope that Cypriot citizens will participate in the European elections in 2004. There can be no question of delaying an historic process in which the security, stability and well being of Europe as a whole is involved.

During my visit to Cyprus, I shall be meeting citizens from various walks of life, including both Greek and Turkish Cypriot trade unionists. I detect a yearning on the part of all Cypriots to be part of the European project.

As President of the European Commission I say to all the people of Cyprus “Welcome! The European Union will only be complete when you, and the other European peoples who aspire to membership, are ready to join us”.

Thank you.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICE CENTER 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of the House of Representatives an important anniversary which will be commemorated in my district on Nov. 13. The Domestic Violence Service Center (DVSC) will observe the 25th anniversary of its founding. I am pleased to have the opportunity to commend the center for its tireless dedication to helping women and children in crisis.

Originally called Womencenter when it was first conceived in October 1976, the DVSC began as an assessment agency to focus on the needs of area women. The pleas for help from battered women in the first six months were overwhelming. Because of this, the Womencenter refocused its purpose to address the issue of domestic violence and how it affects women and children in the Wyoming Valley. A task force was formed to study the issue. The result of that meeting was the founding of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV). The first coalition of its kind in the United States, the PCADV is still a leader in victims' rights issues in the State and the Nation.

In 1977, the Womencenter received a grant to develop a full-time domestic violence program. Services expanded and a liaison with Legal Services of Northeastern Pennsylvania was established.

A speakers' bureau was begun to promote community awareness. In 1978, the task force established the first shelter for battered women in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Within one week, the unadvertised shelter was completely filled to capacity. That June, the Womencenter incorporated as the Domestic Violence Service Center. A board was formed and the first officers were elected.

The number of clients served by the DVSC has grown from approximately 700 in the 1985–86 fiscal year to more than 2,400 per year at present. The Domestic Violence Service Center has served the area as a shelter, an advocacy agency, an outreach center, and a counseling center.

The DVSC has been on the forefront of public education of domestic violence and involved with other social service agencies and the District Attorney's office in creating a county-wide protocol for the handling of domestic violence cases. The center has coordinated with local police forces to create a common protocol in handling the actual distress calls and has coordinated with local health care providers to develop a family violence medical protocol that has been adopted by all hospitals in the county as well as by numerous home health care professionals and physicians' offices. Most recently, in July 2001, the center received funding to support its partnership with Northeast Counseling Services to implement a Mental Health Advocacy Project, a first of its kind in the state. The project will cross-train mental health and domestic violence staff and provide informed services to clients of both agencies.

Led by President Mary Ellen Roberts and Executive Director Ellen Moyle Harris, the DVSC serves as an example to the entire State of Pennsylvania. The center also plays a leadership role statewide through representation on PCADV committees including ones that handle legal advocacy, contracts, legislative and planning matters. In addition, Pat Kwetkauskie, a DVSC representative, chairs the Pennsylvania Medical Advocacy Task Force and has also chaired a committee of the former Attorney General's Domestic Violence Task Force. DVSC staff and training team volunteers have also presented workshops and lectures at state, regional and national conferences. At a statewide PCADV conference in 1991, 12 members of the DVSC board, staff and advisory committee were honored with Leadership in Action awards.

The DVSCs Court Advocacy, Medical Advocacy, STOP Violence Against Women Projects continue to be integral parts of DVSC services, and the center continues to provide technical assistance to agencies in other counties that are interested in duplicating DVSC programs.

Most importantly, the Domestic Violence Service Center has provided shelter for thousands of battered women who flee their homes, often in the middle of the night, afraid for their lives and the lives of their children.

Mr. Speaker, the impact of domestic violence affects the entire community. Each year, the center conducts a solemn and poignant candlelight vigil at the Luzerne County Courthouse to commemorate Domestic Violence Month. I have had the honor of participating in this event. I am proud to commend the hard-working staff, board of directors, and volunteers on their dedicated effort to help those who would otherwise be trapped indefinitely in

a crisis situation. Through their work and dedication, they offer a place for women and children to turn to break the cycle of violence. Although this anniversary is not a celebration, it is a call to each of us to help stop this devastation of the American family. Mr. Speaker, I hope this anniversary will expand public awareness of the important work that the DVSC does.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 3253, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CENTERS

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, as an original co-sponsor of H.R. 3253, the National Medical Emergency Preparedness Act of 2001, I strongly support this important legislation which will improve our national ability to respond to acts of terrorism and other medical emergencies. I look forward to quick action on this legislation and commend my friend and colleague, Chris Smith, for authoring this measure.

The National Medical Emergency Preparedness Act of 2001 would create National Medical Preparedness Centers within the Department of Veterans Affairs. These centers would have several important missions. In addition to training medical personnel to recognize the symptoms of exposure to chemical, biological and radiological weapons, the National Medical Preparedness Centers will provide important national leadership in the development of new diagnostic tests, vaccines, and treatments for chemical, biological and radiological terrorist threats.

Last month, on October 15, the Committee on Veterans Affairs received testimony on VA contingency missions to the Department of Defense in times of war or national emergency and as a participant in the Federal Response Plan during disasters. Federal agencies described a critical role for the Department and expounded upon additional roles, given the resources, the Department could play.

In response to that hearing, H.R. 3253 was introduced. The National Medical Emergency Preparedness Centers established by this legislation will provide important contributions to innovation and leadership in the detection of biological, chemical, and radiological hazards, the development of vaccines to prevent devastating consequences we have seen from exposures to toxins such as anthrax and effective treatment for exposures to pathogenic materials.

VA has many successful models of Centers that combine research, education and training, and patient treatment. Among such "centers of excellence" are its Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Centers, its Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Centers, its Parkinson's Disease Research Education and Clinical Centers and other centers selected on a competitive basis in order to create living laboratories for applying state-of-the-art care to patients that need it. The synergies of these centers' missions combine to produce innovative research and technologies to their respective fields.

VA has much to offer the Nation in establishing Centers that can build upon its existing expertise, but break new ground in further exploring areas that directly affect the lives of all Americans. I believe the benefits to our public health would far outweigh the \$20 million annual cost to fund these Centers. As we continue our quest to protect our homeland, we must find leaders within the community to assist our efforts to protect Americans. VA can and should be part of this leadership team.

RECOGNIZING EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT, DR. RAMON DOMINGUEZ

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an individual who has done an exceptional job at the El Paso Community College (EPCC). Dr. Ramon Dominguez is retiring from EPCC after 28 years of public service to this institution, the 4th largest community college in the state of Texas. Dr. Dominguez has done an outstanding job in overseeing the day-to-day operations of the college's five branches and an operating budget of about \$77 million. He has provided leadership and direction to the 2,800 employees and about 24,000 students, 82 percent of whom are Hispanic.

Dr. Dominguez is easy going and has a soothing nature about him. He received overwhelming support from the faculty, staff, and students when he became the President of the Community College in May of 2000. Shortly after being sworn in as President, Dr. Dominguez began reorganizing EPCC's top administration. He demonstrated his beliefs in being highly inclusive and sharing the governing of EPCC. He also showed that he is approachable, fair, willing to listen, hard-working and committed to the students and the college.

Dr. Dominguez graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in 1971 with a secondary education degree. As soon as he completed college, Dr. Dominguez began his focus on serving people. He has always held the goals of teaching, counseling, and mentoring as his top priorities and has contributed greatly to the success of others, especially the students.

Dr. Dominguez began at EPCC as an instructor for the Veterans Upward Bound Program where he used teaching and counseling skills to work with veterans that were returning from the military, specifically Vietnam. He then spent 15 years as a counselor. In fact, Dr. Dominguez was so committed to serving his students better as a guidance counselor that he returned to school and received his masters in counsel and guidance from UTEP. He went on to earn an Educational Specialist in Administration Degree at New Mexico State University (NMSU) and finally a PhD in Administration with a minor in counseling and guidance. Before becoming the President of EPCC, Dr. Dominguez served the Community College as an assistant vice president of Student Services, executive vice president, and as the interim president twice.

Mr. Speaker, this institution played an important role in my life and it continues to play

an important role in the lives of the residents of our city. I am proud of the fact that in 1977, I received an Associates Degree from the El Paso Community College. The El Paso Community College continues to provide educational opportunities and support services that prepare individuals to improve their quality of life. I applaud the role that this institution has played in El Paso and the leadership, dedication, and service that Dr. Dominguez has provided to this school and its students.

At the dawn of this new century, I see community colleges such as the El Paso Community College as playing a critical role. I believe that community colleges must expand and become more accessible to all people who desire personal enrichment, growth, and development. Over the years, community colleges have assisted many people who would otherwise not have access to higher education by providing them with quality, affordable education. It is critically important to give our students every opportunity to compete in this new global economy. I applaud the efforts and the work that Dr. Dominguez has contributed to further these goals and the role that El Paso Community College continues to play in the fabric of El Paso.

Dr. Dominguez has guided the El Paso Community College well. I know that this institution will continue to flourish and educate future generations of El Pasoans. Dr. Dominguez is a pillar of integrity in the El Paso community and I want to thank him on behalf of El Paso and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

INTERNET GAMBLING BILL

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Internet Gambling Bill introduced on November 1, 2001. This important legislation, authored by Representative GOODLATTE, provides a much-needed update to existing law, which is no longer adequate to prohibit gambling on the Internet.

Minors can easily use the Internet to access illegal content, including Internet gambling websites. This is a dangerous loophole to existing law. Gambling is a potentially addictive habit which should be restricted to adults.

As technology continues to change the way we communicate and learn we must ensure that our laws change and adapt concurrently. Regulations previously used to prevent gambling over telephone lines are no longer sufficient to address gambling over the Internet, which increasingly relies on wireless communications. The Internet Gambling Bill modernizes existing law by bringing the current prohibition against interstate gambling up to speed with the development of new technology.

This important legislation also defines gambling more specifically to include interactive games on the Internet, including poker and blackjack which are not clearly included in current law. Violations under the act are punishable by prison terms of up to five years.

Gambling on the Internet has become increasingly prevalent in recent years. More than 650 Internet gambling websites operated just last year. In 1999, the total revenue asso-

ciated with Internet gambling exceeded \$1.2 billion, an 80 percent increase from the previous year.

It is time to stop illegal gambling on the Internet. This legislation is an important first step.

DEDICATION OF THE PURPLE HEART MONUMENT IN PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 522 of Paramus, New Jersey, as they dedicate a Purple Heart Monument today in Paramus. In this time of remembrance for those killed on September 11th, it is important to remember all who have put their lives on the line for our nation. Our nation's veterans offer us wisdom and guidance in these troubled times. I thank Chapter 522 for honoring our veterans as we support and defend our country in this new war.

Decades ago, President Ronald Reagan addressed the Memorial Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. His words were profound: "No one wants peace more than the soldier, for the soldier understands better than anyone, the pain and destruction of war." Implicit in his message is that preserving the peace is an everyday job. It's a job that requires hard work. It's a job that requires firm resolution. It's a job that absolutely requires sacrifice.

I stand here today and honor the Military Order of the Purple Heart with great pride. These are the Americans who have done the hard work. Who have displayed the firm resolution. Who have sacrificed. These are our nation's heroes.

As we commemorate those who have fought for our country with this Purple Heart Monument, the eyes of the nation turn to the service and sacrifice of our veterans. Our nation thanks you.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Chapter 522 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and all who have served and those who have died for our country. May God bless them and God bless America.

67TH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE FAMINE AND 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINIAN HELSINKI GROUP

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the memory of innocent victims of an abominable act perpetrated against the people of Ukraine in 1932-33. Seven million innocent men, women and children were murdered so that one man, Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, could consolidate control over Ukraine. The Ukrainian people resisted the Soviet policy of forced collectivization. The innocent died a horrific death at the

hands of a tyrannical dictatorship which had crushed their freedom.

In an attempt to break the spirit of an independent-minded and nationally-conscious Ukrainian peasantry, and ultimately to secure collectivization, Stalin ordered the expropriation of all foodstuffs in the hands of the rural population. The grain was shipped to other areas of the Soviet Union or sold on the international market. Peasants who refused to turn over grain to the state were deported or executed. Without food or grain, mass starvation ensued. This manmade famine was the consequence of deliberate policies which aimed to destroy the political, cultural and human rights of the Ukrainian people. In short, food was used as a weapon in what can only be described as an organized act of terrorism designed to suppress a people's love of their land and the basic liberty to live as they choose.

This month also marks an important milestone in more recent Ukrainian history. Twenty-five years ago, on November 9, 1976, 10 courageous men and women formed the Ukrainian Public Group to Promote the Implementation of the Helsinki Accords. The work of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group focused on monitoring human rights violations and on the Ukrainian national question as an integral component of human rights issues. The Ukrainian Helsinki Group eventually became the largest of its kind among similar groups in the Soviet Union, but also the most repressed by the Soviet regime. Of the 37 Ukrainians who eventually joined the Group, virtually all were subjected to lengthy terms in labor camps and internal exile. Three—Oleksiy Tykhy, Yuri Lytvyn and Vasyl Stus—died in the mid-1980s while serving camp terms under extremely harsh conditions. Their courageous, active commitment to human rights and freedom for the people of Ukraine laid the foundation for the historic achievement of Ukrainian independence in 1991.

As we honor the memory of the millions of innocent victims of the Ukrainian Famine, let us also not forget to honor the work and, in some instances, the martyrdom, of the valiant members of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group.

While similar atrocities are highly unlikely, Ukraine has yet to realize its full democratic potential. Despite the real progress made in the decade since independence, the unsolved murders of Georgiy Gongadze and other journalists and political figures, the assaults on media freedoms, the pervasive corruption, and the lack of respect for the rule of law demonstrate a democratic deficit that must be overcome. An independent, sovereign, democratic Ukraine—in which respect for the dignity of human beings is the cornerstone—is the best guarantee that the horrors of the last century become truly inconceivable.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TECHNICAL SERGEANT RONALD A. GISEL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Technical Sergeant Ronald Gisel as one of this year's U.S. Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, this is a huge accomplishment, and one that clearly shows this man's commitment to serving the United States of America. As the noncommissioned officer in charge of 31 ceremonial guardsmen who performed more than 700 Air Force and Joint Service ceremonies, Sergeant Gisel proves himself to be a professional of the highest caliber. His superior job performance is noticeable to all he comes in contact with. He is certainly worthy of recognition!

A man of firm beliefs and unselfish commitment to helping others, Sergeant Gisel is a fine role model for the young adults in high school and to the two-home schooled junior high school students in which he mentors. His values and beliefs are reflected in his dedication to his work and his relationships with his family, friends, and people in the community.

Indeed, Sergeant Gisel is an excellent example to all. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Technical Sergeant Ronald A. Gisel for being recognized as one of the U.S. Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

HONORING CAROLE BLACK, PRESIDENT & CEO, LIFETIME ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today's woman has many role models that have paved the path to our success. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and Eleanor Roosevelt created a momentum for the women's movement that still gains speed today as modern women climb new mountains.

One of these modern women is Carole Black, President & CEO of Lifetime Entertainment Services. Ms. Black has demonstrated her commitment to supporting other women by making sure that women are informed.

Black's ideas and influence reach more than 83 million homes in our great country and have propelled Lifetime's ratings to set new records. Lifetime's recent successes are rooted in Blacks' commitment to entertain, inform and support women by dramatically increasing the Network's original programming slate and expanding its marketing and public affairs efforts.

Carole Black also has greatly expanded Lifetime's advocacy initiatives, using the media to make a positive difference in the lives of women. Issues that have been recognized include the following: the fight against breast cancer; women in the arts; the importance of early childhood education and access to affordable, quality child care; and the fight to instill self-esteem in thousands of women. Carole Black is working with Lifetime Entertainment to recognize the issues that directly affect our lives—and our families.

Black's leadership and vision have led to her recognition as one of "America's 100 Most Important Women" by Ladies' Home Journal Magazine and one of "New York's 100 Most Influential Women in Business" by Crain's New York Business Magazine. The Hollywood Reporter has named her repeatedly as one of the "Top Women in Entertainment." Most re-

cently, Ms. Black was honored at the Women in Cable & Telecommunications Gala for her incredible contributions.

Most recently, Black was named one of Fortune Magazine's Top 50 Women in Business. In June 2000, Black was honored to participate with national and world leaders, such as United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan, and Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, in Beijing Plus 5: Women 2000, the historic international conference to promote women's rights. In November 2000, Black served as one of 15 United States delegates to "The 2nd Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) Conference on Women Entrepreneurs" in Paris, France.

As a television industry leader, Black champions diversity not only through Lifetime's on-air programming and countless public affairs initiatives but also through involvement with several industry organizations for which she serves on the Board of Directors, including The Walter Kaitz Foundation, Cable Positive and the T. Howard Foundation. For her dedication to this important issue, Black earned the YWCA Racial Justice Award in April 2000, the National Hispanic Media Coalition Impact Award in February 2001 and the Imagen Foundation Inspiration Award in June 2001.

Carole Black also is dedicated to using her knowledge to educate the future leaders of America. Black serves on the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government Women's Leadership Board and is a Trustee of the American Women in Radio & Television, New York Women in Communications, New York Women in Film, Women in Cable & Telecommunications and the Women's Sports Foundation.

Carole Black is a great role model for our young women to follow. She is an inspiration and an educator, a tough executive and a visionary. But most importantly, she is a woman and a friend to each person who is touched by her work. As a role model to many, Ms. Black keeps the momentum of the women's movement rolling and would have made our foremothers proud.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending this dedicated public servant.

WMUL-FM FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, in 1895, Guglielmo Marconi transmitted electrical signals through the air. This first radio broadcast went from one end of Marconi's house to the other. The second stretched from his laboratory out to his garden. Six years later he sent a signal from England to America.

Like the acclaimed Italian inventor, WMUL-FM radio started out small: a ten-watt transmitter in a science building basement. Yet, in the spirit of Marconi himself, the Marshall University broadcasters were blazing new trails and determined to expand the range, quality, and influence of their signal. It was 1961.

Now, in their fortieth year, WMUL-FM has a \$100,000 a year budget, broadcasts an 1,150

watt signal, and transmits from state-of-the-art digital studios. The Marshall students who staff it, and the professors who teach them, are nationally-recognized radio professionals. Since 1985, they have won 435 awards. WMUL-FM alumni have worked at all levels in local, regional, and national electronic media, distinguishing themselves regularly regardless of the competition.

I congratulate Marshall University and WMUL-FM radio for four decades' service to the Marshall and Huntington communities. Their commitment is impressive and their accomplishments inspiring. Marconi would approve of the electronic signals that WMUL-FM sends through the air.

TRIBUTE TO LARISA JAFFE, PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and service of Larisa Jaffe, a Peace Corps volunteer, who lost her life in Zimbabwe in October of this year. Dr. Jaffe was a naturalized American citizen. She came to the United States from the former Soviet Union where she had earned a doctorate in geology. A woman of great intellectual energy, she taught at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in California and at West High School in Salt Lake City, Utah. She became certified as an emergency medical technician and volunteered her services to Planned Parenthood and to hospices for the terminally ill.

At the age of sixty-two, she arrived in Zimbabwe as a Peace Corps volunteer. She served in the city of Mutare as the Information Officer for CADEC, the Catholic Development Commission. She developed HIV/AIDS awareness and education materials and assisted the staff with computers and information technology. She devoted much of her time to the more than 2000 children orphaned by AIDS in the Mutare region. Tragically, her work ended with her death, a suspected homicide. Police took into custody as suspects two citizens of Zimbabwe.

Dr. Jaffe's daughter, Julia Ravinsky, lives in Massachusetts where a memorial service was conducted on October 26. Ms. Ravinsky spoke of her mother's great love of adventure and her even greater love of humankind. She showed slides of her mother riding camels and elephants and mingling joyously with the peoples of three continents. I salute Julia's bravery as well as her mother's.

Two Peace Corps officials eulogized Larisa Jaffe. Acting Deputy Director Lloyd O. Pierson presented an American and a Peace Corps flag and a letter of condolence from President and Mrs. Bush. He spoke of the significance of the Peace Corps in these difficult times. I quote Mr. Pierson: "Larisa's contributions to the Peace Corps and to our country will never be forgotten. The tragic events of September 11 have shown more than ever the need for more individuals, like Larisa, committed and courageous, who are willing to answer the call to service and respond to the challenge of the Peace Corps mission." I thank Mr. Pierson for traveling to Massachusetts to acknowledge Dr. Jaffe's contribution and to comfort her family and friends.

Lois Hobson, Country Director of the Peace Corps for Zimbabwe, accompanied Dr. Jaffe's remains on the sad journey home. I want to thank her personally for bringing Julia's mother home. Director Hobson spoke of her friendship with Larisa Jaffe, of Larisa's fearlessness, her openness, her refusal to find cultural differences obstacles to understanding and cooperation. I quote her remarks in part, "Mutare's mountains impressed her deeply, often prompting her to tell others how comfortable she felt in Mutare, how much she loved the city and the people. When she was required to travel to Harare, she was always in a hurry to return to the beautiful city at the foot of the mountains. Industrious, creative, energetic, feisty, brave, courageous—this was Larisa. Stubborn, independent, mature, sometimes naive, determined, loving, kind. This too was Larisa. We all miss her."

Mr. Pierson is right that we need to remember Larisa Jaffe. She came to the United States as a refugee. She embraced our principles and our customs. She believed that all persons are created free and equal. She believed in volunteering. Like many of those who perished on September 11, she knew our country, her adopted country, to be a land of hope and opportunity. Her example will continue to inspire us.

AIRLINE WORKER MORTGAGE RELIEF ACT OF 2001

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on September 13, 2001, in response to the September 11th tragedy, Secretary Mel Martinez of HUD directed all FHA-approved lenders to provide a 90-day mortgage forbearance for families with FHA insured mortgages who were affected by the recent terrorist attacks. "Affected, borrowers are those individuals who were passengers or crew on the four hijacked airliners (American Airlines 11 and 77, United Airlines 93 and 175), individuals employed on September 11, 2001, in or near the World Trade Center, or in the Pentagon, and individuals whose financial viability was affected by the . . . events of [that] day." (HUD Mortgage Letter 01-21).

As evidenced by the \$15 billion bail out that followed the events of September 11, the effects felt by the airline industry were amongst the most immediate and devastating experienced within the corporate world. It follows naturally, that the devastation experienced by the airlines will ultimately be felt by the 150,000+ employees whose financial viability has, or will soon be affected by the ongoing wave of post-September 11th lay offs. And while the language of HUD Letter 01-21 may be read to include airline industry workers, the ambiguity of that language leaves open the possibility of denial under the letter. This group is simply, which has been so obviously affected by the events of September 11th, cannot be forgotten.

The Airline Mortgage Relief Act of 2001 addresses the ambiguous language of HUD Letter 01-21 by explicitly applying the aforementioned moratorium to laid off employees of foreign and domestic air carriers and laid off employees of manufacturers aircraft used by for-

eign or domestic carriers. The bill also expands for all eligible borrowers, the 90-day forbearance to 180 days from enactment; and requires the Secretary of HUD to inform mortgagees of the moratorium.

In light of HUD Letter 01-21, as well as recent Congressional concerns over the health of the airline industry, the Airline Worker Mortgage Relief Act of 2001 would afford Congress the perfect opportunity to give as much attention to unemployed airline industry workers, as has been given to their former corporate employers.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE CHOLESTEROL SCREENING COV- ERAGE ACT OF 2001

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Medicare Cholesterol Screening Coverage Act of 2001.

Most Americans know that too much cholesterol in their diet is harmful. Many Americans might not realize, however, that cholesterol levels are the number one indicators of their risk of heart disease. With one simple blood test every five years, doctors can quickly uncover and track a person's risk. This is why the federal government, doctors, health groups like the American Heart Association, and many other science based groups and studies agree—Americans should have their cholesterol checked by their doctor to prevent heart disease in their future.

It is interesting—two major federal guidelines on cholesterol screening were updated in May of this year by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) at the National Institutes of Health, and by the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force. Both agencies, recommendations agree, stating that every American over the age of twenty should have their cholesterol levels tested every five years.

But read further in the guidelines, and you find the really good news for seniors. While the former federal guidelines on cholesterol screening had suggested that those over 75 do not need to be tested, the most recent guidelines threw that upper age limit out the window. We now know that seniors with high cholesterol can be effectively treated for this disorder and consequently lower their risk of damaging heart disease. For many, treatment can be as simple as adjusting your diet and increasing levels of physical activity.

While Congress looks at ways to update the Medicare System, we must also take every opportunity to make the Medicare program better for seniors—and this is one such opportunity. My bill immediately benefits seniors in Medicare by providing a new benefit that will save lives and reduce disability from heart disease and stroke.

The Medicare Cholesterol Screening Coverage Act of 2001 will add coverage of preventive cholesterol screenings to all seniors in the Medicare Program. It seems counter intuitive that the two-thirds of the Medicare beneficiaries currently eligible for cholesterol screening are those who have already been struck with a cardiovascular illness or other lipid-related diseases. Congress needs to

make the Medicare program a more forward thinking program, and this bill is a huge step in that direction. While we have taken steps like this in the past, we have done little to prevent the number one cause of death in the United States—heart disease.

The numbers are staggering regarding heart disease. Each year, more than a million Americans have heart attacks, and about a half a million people die from heart disease. In addition, coronary heart disease accounts for nearly half of the total mortality of Americans over 65.

Regrettably heart attack and stroke victims aren't always given a second chance to lower cholesterol levels. Thus the first step in saving lives must be to identify those in need of treatment. This can only be accomplished by regular cholesterol and blood lipid screening.

By passing this bill, Congress will be helping to provide Americans with the knowledge they need to live longer, healthier and happier lives. As Congress considers further improvements to the Medicare program, I urge my colleagues to support this important effort.

PRESIDENT BUSH'S PROFOUND RE- MARKS TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with our colleagues President Bush's remarks delivered to the United Nations General Assembly on Saturday, November 10.

The President boldly articulates the present crisis confronting civilization, underscoring the resolve and courage necessary for victory.

PRESIDENT BUSH SPEAKS TO UNITED NATIONS REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT, TO UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, U.N. HEAD-QUARTERS, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Mr. Secretary General, Mr. President, distinguished delegates, and ladies and gentlemen. We meet in a hall devoted to peace, in a city scarred by violence, in a nation awakened to danger, in a world uniting for a long struggle. Every civilized nation here today is resolved to keep the most basic commitment of civilization: We will defend ourselves and our future against terror and lawless violence.

The United Nations was founded in this cause. In a second world war, we learned there is no isolation from evil. We affirmed that some crimes are so terrible they offend humanity, itself. And we resolved that the aggressions and ambitions of the wicked must be opposed early, decisively, and collectively, before they threaten us all. That evil has returned, and that cause is renewed.

A few miles from here, many thousands still lie in a tomb of rubble. Tomorrow, the Secretary General, the President of the General Assembly, and I will visit that site, where the names of every nation and region that lost citizens will be read aloud. If we were to read the names of every person who died, it would take more than three hours.

Those names include a citizen of Gambia, whose wife spent their fourth wedding anniversary, September the 12th, searching in vain for her husband. Those names include a man who supported his wife in Mexico, sending home money every week. Those names

include a young Pakistani who prayed toward Mecca five times a day, and died that day trying to save others.

The suffering of September the 11th was inflicted on people of many faiths and many nations. All of the victims, including Muslims, were killed with equal indifference and equal satisfaction by the terrorist leaders. The terrorists are violating the tenets of every religion, including the one they invoke.

Last week, the Sheikh of Al-Azhar University, the world's oldest Islamic institution of higher learning, declared that terrorism is a disease, and that Islam prohibits killing innocent civilians. The terrorists call their cause holy, yet, they fund it with drug dealing; they encourage murder and suicide in the name of a great faith that forbids both. They dare to ask God's blessing as they set out to kill innocent men, women and children. But the God of Isaac and Ishmael would never answer such a prayer. And a murderer is not a martyr; he is just a murderer.

Time is passing. Yet, for the United States of America, there will be no forgetting September the 11th. We will remember every rescuer who died in honor. We will remember every family that lives in grief. We will remember the fire and ash, the last phone calls, the funerals of the children.

And the people of my country will remember those who have plotted against us. We are learning their names. We are coming to know their faces. There is no corner of the Earth distant or dark enough to protect them. However long it takes, their hour of justice will come. Every nation has a stake in this cause. As we meet, the terrorists are planning more murder—perhaps in my country, or perhaps in yours. They kill because they aspire to dominate. They seek to overthrow governments and destabilize entire regions.

Last week, anticipating this meeting of the General Assembly, they denounced the United Nations. They called our Secretary General a criminal and condemned all Arab nations here as traitors to Islam.

Few countries meet their exacting standards of brutality and oppression. Every other country is a potential target. And all the world faces the most horrifying prospect of all: These same terrorists are searching for weapons of mass destruction, the tools to turn their hatred into holocaust. They can be expected to use chemical, biological and nuclear weapons the moment they are capable of doing so. No hint of conscience would prevent it.

This threat cannot be ignored. This threat cannot be appeased. Civilization, itself, the civilization we share, is threatened. History will record our response, and judge or justify every nation in this hall.

The civilized world is now responding. We act to defend ourselves and deliver our children from a future of fear. We choose the dignity of life over a culture of death. We choose lawful change and civil disagreement over coercion, subversion, and chaos. These commitments—hope and order, law and life—unite people across cultures and continents. Upon these commitments depend all peace and progress. For these commitments, we are determined to fight.

The United Nations has risen to this responsibility. On the 12th of September, these buildings opened for emergency meetings of the General Assembly and the Security Council. Before the sun had set, these attacks on the world stood condemned by the world. And I want to thank you for this strong and principled stand.

I also thank the Arab Islamic countries, that, have condemned terrorist murder. Many of you have seen the destruction of

terror in your own lands. The terrorists are increasingly isolated by their own hatred and extremism. They cannot hide behind Islam. The authors of mass murder and their allies have no place in any culture, and no home in any faith.

The conspiracies of terror are being answered by an expanding global coalition. Not every nation will be a part of every action against the enemy. But every nation in our coalition has duties. These duties can be demanding, as we in America are learning. We have already made adjustments in our laws and in our daily lives. We're taking new measures to investigate terror and to protect against threats.

The leaders of all nations must now carefully consider their responsibilities and their future. Terrorist groups like at Qaeda depend upon the aid or indifference of governments. They need the support of a financial infrastructure, and safe havens to train and plan and hide.

Some nations want to play their part in the fight against terror, but tell us they lack the means to enforce their laws and control their borders. We stand ready to help. Some governments still turn a blind eye to the terrorists, hoping the threat will pass them by. They are mistaken. And some governments, while pledging to uphold the principles of the U.N., have cast their lot with the terrorists. They support them and harbor them, and they will find that their welcome guests are parasites that will weaken them, and eventually consume them.

For every regime that sponsors terror, there is a price to be paid. And it will be paid. The allies of terror are equally guilty of murder and equally accountable to justice.

The Taliban are now learning this lesson—that regime and the terrorists who support it are now virtually indistinguishable. Together they promote terror abroad and impose a reign of terror on the Afghan people. Women are executed in Kabul's soccer stadium. They can be beaten for wearing socks that are too thin. Men are jailed for missing prayer meetings.

The United States, supported by many nations, is bringing justice to the terrorists in Afghanistan. We're making progress against military targets, and that is our objective. Unlike the enemy, we seek to minimize, not maximize, the loss of innocent life.

I'm proud of the honorable conduct of the American military. And my country grieves for all the suffering the Taliban has brought upon Afghanistan, including the terrible burden of war. The Afghan people do not deserve their present rulers. Years of Taliban misrule has brought nothing but misery and starvation. Even before this current crisis, 4 million Afghans depended on food from the United States and other nations, and millions of Afghans were refugees from Taliban oppression.

I make this promise to all the victims of that regime: The Taliban's days of harboring terrorists and dealing in heroin and brutalizing women are drawing to a close. And when that regime is gone, the people of Afghanistan will say with the rest of the world: good riddance.

I can promise, too, that America will join the world in helping the people of Afghanistan rebuild their country. Many nations, including mine, are sending food and medicine to help Afghans through the winter. America has air-dropped over 1.3 million packages of rations into Afghanistan. Just this week, we air-lifted 20,000 blankets and over 200 tons of provisions into the region. We continue to provide humanitarian aid, even while the Taliban tried to steal the food we send.

More help eventually will be needed. The United States will work closely with the

United Nations and development banks to reconstruct Afghanistan after hostilities there have ceased and the Taliban are no longer in control. And the United States will work with the U.N. to support a post-Taliban government that represents all of the Afghan people.

In this war of terror, each of us must answer for what we have done or what we have left undone. After tragedy, there is a time for sympathy and condolence. And my country has been very grateful for both. The memorials and vigils around the world will not be forgotten. But the time for sympathy has now passed; the time for action has now arrived.

The most basic obligations in this new conflict have already been defined by the United Nations. On September the 28th, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1373. Its requirements are clear: Every United Nations member has a responsibility to crack down on terrorist financing. We must pass all necessary laws in our own countries to allow the confiscation of terrorist assets. We must apply those laws to every financial institution in every nation.

We have a responsibility to share intelligence and coordinate the efforts of law enforcement. If you know something, tell us. If we know something, we'll tell you. And when we find the terrorists, we must work together to bring them to justice. We have a responsibility to deny any sanctuary, safe haven or transit to terrorists. Every known terrorist camp must be shut down, its operators apprehended, and evidence of their arrest presented to the United Nations. We have a responsibility to deny weapons to terrorists and to actively prevent private citizens from providing them.

These obligations are urgent and they are binding on every nation with a place in this chamber. Many governments are taking these obligations seriously, and my country appreciates it. Yet, even beyond Resolution 1373, more is required, and more is expected of our coalition against terror.

We're asking for a comprehensive commitment to this fight. We must unite in opposing all terrorists, not just some of them. In this world there are good causes and bad causes, and we may disagree on where the line is drawn. Yet, there is no such thing as a good terrorist. No national aspiration, no remembered wrong can ever justify the deliberate murder of the innocent. Any government that rejects this principle, trying to pick and choose its terrorist friends, will know the consequences.

We must speak the truth about terror. Let us never tolerate outrageous conspiracy theories concerning the attacks of September the 11th; malicious lies that attempt to shift the blame away from the terrorists, themselves, away from the guilty. To inflame ethnic hatred is to advance the cause of terror.

The war against terror must not serve as an excuse to persecute ethnic and religious minorities in any country. Innocent people must be allowed to live their own lives, by their own customs, under their own religion. And every nation must have avenues for the peaceful expression of opinion and dissent. When these avenues are closed, the temptation to speak through violence grows.

We must press on with our agenda for peace and prosperity in every land. My country is pledged to encouraging development and expanding trade. My country is pledged to investing in education and combatting AIDS and other infectious diseases around the world. Following September 11th, these pledges are even more important. In our struggle against hateful groups that exploit poverty and despair, we must offer an alternative of opportunity and hope.

The American government also stands by its commitment to a just peace in the Middle East. We are working toward a day when two states, Israel and Palestine, live peacefully together within secure and recognize borders as called for by the Security Council resolutions. We will do all in our power to bring both parties back into negotiations. But peace will only come when all have sworn off, forever, incitement, violence and terror.

And, finally, this struggle is a defining moment for the United Nations, itself. And the world needs its principled leadership. It undermines the credibility of this great institution, for example, when the Commission on Human Rights offers seats to the world's most persistent violators of human rights. The United Nations depends, above all, on its moral authority—and that authority must be preserved.

The steps I described will not be easy. For all nations, they will require effort. For some nations, they will require great courage. Yet, the cost of inaction is far greater. The only alternative to victory is a nightmare world where every city is a potential killing field.

As I've told the American people, freedom and fear are at war. We face enemies that hate not our policies, but our existence; the tolerance of openness and creative culture that defines us. But the outcome of this conflict is certain: There is a current in history and it runs toward freedom. Our enemies resent it and dismiss it, but the dreams of mankind are defined by liberty—the natural right to create and build and worship and live in dignity. When men and women are released from oppression and isolation, they find fulfillment and hope, and they leave poverty by the millions.

These aspirations are lifting up the peoples of Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas, and they can lift up all of the Islamic world.

We stand for the permanent hopes of humanity, and those hopes will not be denied. We're confident, too, that history has an author who fills time and eternity with his purpose. We know that evil is real, but good will prevail against it. This is the teaching of many faiths, and in that assurance we gain strength for a long journey.

It is our task—the task of this generation—to provide the response to aggression and terror. We have no other choice, because there is no other peace.

We did not ask for this mission, yet there is honor in history's call. We have a chance to write the story of our times, a story of courage defeating cruelty and light overcoming darkness. This calling is worthy of any life, and worthy of every nation. So let us go forward, confident, determined, and unafraid.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

REGARDING H.R. 3162

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3162 because I support combating terrorism in a way that ensures the protection of our freedom and liberties as well as our security. Unfortunately, H.R. 3162 provides sweeping new authority to law enforcement without also providing strong safeguards against the abuse of these new powers, and I cannot support it.

This issue is so important because it combines two of the most sacred responsibilities

of the American government—protection of citizens' safety and the preservation of their liberty. Throughout our history, our government has sought the proper balance between the needs of law enforcement to conduct investigations in pursuit of suspected criminals and the needs of law-abiding citizens to live free from unnecessary government intrusion into their lives and activities. Until September 11, 2001, many felt we were equipped with the investigative tools they needed to investigate suspected criminals and prevent serious crimes. Since then, however, the need for new tools has become apparent.

The terrorist attacks of September 11 showed all Americans that new protections are needed to keep Americans safe and to uncover the activities of those who would do us future harm. The terrible acts shocked the world with their brutality, and I strongly support the President as he moves to eliminate future terrorist threats both at home and abroad. I also believe that the law enforcement community needs to modernize its capabilities to address the new threats we face as a nation but that we should not act hastily without fully understanding how the new powers will affect American freedom.

In response to the newly apparent need for changes in the law pertaining to criminal investigations, the House Judiciary Committee held hearings on the issue and crafted a thoughtfully designed bill to address the needs of law enforcement. The Committee's bill, H.R. 2975—the PATRIOT Act, passed in an incredibly rare unanimous and bipartisan vote of 36–0. H.R. 2975 received widespread support among members of the House, and I was prepared to support its passage through the House. It was a comprehensive bill that would have given important new authority to law enforcement while maintaining strong protections for the liberty and freedom of all citizens. H.R. 2975 would also have retained the crucial oversight of criminal investigations and prosecutions by impartial judges charged with ensuring that law enforcement acts fairly and responsibly.

The version of H.R. 2975 that reached the floor, however, was not the version I and many of my colleagues supported. Through a series of late-night negotiations held by a very small group of legislators, the language of H.R. 2975 was amended and altered to remove many of the vital protections contained in the original bill. I believe that laws affecting the civil liberties of Americans are among the most important considered by the Congress, and I could not in good conscience vote for a bill that I believe will threaten the liberties and freedoms we cherish.

In the days following the passage of H.R. 2975 by the House, the conference committee of the House and Senate created a new bill, H.R. 3162, designed to eliminate the differences in the versions of anti-terrorism legislation already passed by both chambers. In spite of some hard work by the negotiators, I am unable to support this new bill because it does not strike the right balance between protecting our liberties and providing for the security of our citizens.

Let me share with you a few of the bill's troublesome provisions to illustrate how it fails to protect our liberties and prevent abuse of the new powers. First, Federal prosecutors and the FBI are given broad access to very sensitive medical, educational, and financial

records about individuals without having to show evidence of a crime and without a court order. Second, the CIA and other intelligence agencies are once again given the authority to conduct surveillance on Americans because they will be tasked with identifying priority targets for intelligence operations within the United States. The last time this happened, during the 1970s, the Congress discovered numerous serious abuses of this power. Finally, this new legislation expands the power of the federal government to conduct secret searches. These secret searches can be conducted against suspected terrorist activity but can also be used in routine criminal investigations not related to terrorism. These are only a few of the broad, sweeping powers granted to the federal government in this new law.

As a former federal prosecutor and New Mexico's Attorney General, I am both familiar with the needs of law enforcement to pursue suspects and a strong supporter of law enforcement. I also am a strong supporter of civil liberties and believe that the fourth amendment to our Constitution must be guarded against encroachment, even in the name of security. In opposing H.R. 3162, I was expressing my belief that the needs of law enforcement can be met without eroding our liberty. My experience shows that this belief is true, and my convictions tell me that it is right.

A TRIBUTE TO SARGENT SHRIVER,
ONE OF AMERICA'S GREATEST
PUBLIC SERVANTS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, as our nation moves forward from September 11, we know that the answer to profound loss and tragedy can only be found in faith and determination.

Ours is a story of perseverance, of courage, of sacrifice. The American journey has not been paved by ease. Our quest for freedom, democracy and decency has never been free. Yet, we are strengthened by the fact that each generation of Americans prepares its place in history from the shoulders of those who preceded.

Thus, it's with great honor that I pay tribute, on the occasion of his 86th birthday, to one of the greatest public servants in the history of our nation and a great American—Robert Sargent Shriver, Jr.

Sargent Shriver's devotion to this nation—and humanity—sets an example for all to emulate and a high bar that only a few will ever hope to exceed.

A native of the State of Maryland, and in fact a member of one of the Free State's founding families, Sargent Shriver has dedicated his life to improving the lives of others.

A few years ago, Sarge was asked to explain his lifelong commitment to public service. "I just feel my faith," he said. "A life of service is like catching a disease. In a family it's passed on. . . . Our five children are all involved in service. It's in their veins."

There is no doubt that this generation and future generations of Americans are the beneficiaries of his life of service.

After graduating from Yale Law School in 1941, Sarge enlisted in the Navy, where he

received the Navy Unit Citation and the Submarine Medal for service in both the Atlantic and Pacific.

After World War II, Sarge accepted a position as assistant editor with Newsweek magazine. He later went into business with Joseph Kennedy, President Kennedy's father, and met Eunice, his wife of more than 48 years.

Sarge then moved his family to Chicago, where he served on the Board of Education. In 1956, he was elected President of the Board, the youngest person to serve in such a position in any major American city.

And in 1960, he joined the Presidential campaign of then-Senator Kennedy. After the election, he was asked by President Kennedy to create the Peace Corps and in March 1961 was appointed its founding Director.

Sarge's vision for the Peace Corps was straight-forward and strong: "to permit Americans to participate directly, personally, and effectively in this struggle for human dignity."

In nearly six years at the Peace Corps, Sarge developed programs in 55 countries with more than 14,500 volunteers. Forty years later, the solid foundation that he created has only strengthened and expanded. Today, 163,000 Peace Corps volunteers have served in 135 countries.

As CBS television commentator Charles Osgood said just a few weeks ago: "Much has changed since 1960, but two things have not: Americans still pray for peace and they still join the Peace Corps."

However, while Sarge is rightly identified as the founding father of this great American idea, his contributions to the Peace Corps do not tell the whole story.

Sarge also served as the first Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity under President Johnson. Then, between 1964 and 1968, he created VISTA, Head Start, Community Action, Foster Grandparents, Job Corps, Legal Services, Indian and Migrant Opportunities and Neighborhood Health Services.

And, then, from 1968 to 1970, he served as U.S. Ambassador to France, before being nominated in 1972 to serve as the Vice Presidential candidate on the Democratic Party's ticket with George McGovern.

I dare say that few Americans have given so much to help so many. Yet, in the twilight of this incredible life, Sarge and Eunice continue to give. For example, Eunice is the Founder and Honorary Chair and Sarge the Past-President and current Chairman of the Board of the Special Olympics.

To call this record of public service exemplary is a vast understatement. Words cannot adequately convey the decency and humanity that has been brought into the lives of millions worldwide through the work of Sargent Shriver—international lawyer, ambassador, humanitarian. His life's work shall live on long after this and succeeding generations have passed the torch of public service to their progeny.

"Serve, serve, serve," Sarge was known to say, "because in the end it is the servants who save us all."

Mr. Speaker, today I honor a great American and wish him only the best as he begins this, his 87th year of public service to the United States and the cause of humanity.

HONORING BRADFORD L. COWGILL
FOR DEDICATED SERVICE TO
THE GREATER LEXINGTON COM-
MUNITY

HON. ERNIE FLETCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bradford L. Cowgill for his lifelong commitment and dedicated service to his hometown—Lexington, Kentucky. Brad, born to Sue Ann Bradford Cowgill and the late Ben L. Cowgill, attended Fayette County Public Schools, graduating from Henry Clay High School. He received his bachelor's degree in political science and economics from Vanderbilt University and returned to Lexington to receive his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Kentucky School of Law. While at UK, Brad founded and served as editor of the law school newspaper, Dicta, and was a member of the Moot Court Board.

Following graduation, Brad joined the Lexington law firm of Brown, Sledd and McCann, where he became partner in 1982. In 1985, the firm merged with Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs. Currently, Brad's practice is concentrated in corporate matters and commercial litigation, with emphasis on construction-related claims and clients. He is a regular lecturer on construction law topics and is a member of the Forum Committee on the Construction Industry of the American Bar Association. Active in leadership positions in the Kentucky Bar Association, Brad is a former chairman of the Continuing Legal Education Commission and served as chairman of the 1990 Annual Meeting of Kentucky Attorneys.

Brad's commitment to improving the Lexington community is demonstrated by mentioning the current activities in which he is involved. He currently serves as Chairman of the United Way of the Bluegrass, Chairman of the Lexington Community College council and the following boards: Governors Scholar Program, the Lexington YMCA, Bluegrass Tomorrow and the New Century Lexington Partnership. He has served as an executive committee member and general counsel to the Greater Lexington Chamber of Commerce and on the boards of Lexington United and the Better Business Bureau. He has also served for three years as board chairman of Saint Joseph Hospital.

In 1993, Brad served as Council-Member-At-Large of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government by appointment of Mayor Pam Miller. In 1994, he founded TEAM (Toward Efficiency in Administration and Management) Lexington, Inc., a non-profit organization that conducted a nine-month study of the personnel policies and practices of the Urban County Government. In 1995, Brad and others founded the New Century Lexington Partnership, which was a community-wide visioning and planning program undertaken by Lexington's major organizations and institutions. Brad has also served as Chairman of the Lexington-Fayette Historic Commission and of the Lexington Transit Authority.

Brad's service not only includes a multitude of civic and government activities, he is committed to improving public education in Fayette County. He recently served on the Superintendent's Advisory and Key Communicators

Committees for the Fayette County Public Schools. In 1992–93, Brad co-authored COMPEL IV, a Chamber of Commerce study of the Fayette County Public School administration. He has served on the Task Force on Excellence in the Fayette County Schools and is a 1980 and 1990 graduate of Leadership Lexington.

Brad's accomplishments are shared with his wife, Margaret, and his three children: Bo, 20; Ben, 17; and Ann, 14.

Central Kentucky is a better place because of Brad's active involvement in the Lexington community. His commitment to improving the lives of others around him is commendable. Today, Mr. Speaker, I salute and thank Mr. Bradford L. Cowgill for dedication to the Lexington community.

H.R. 3150 "AVIATION SECURITY
ACT"

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, the time to maintain the status quo is over. The attacks of September 11th along with the recent Anthrax scare have left the public frightened and confused over who will ultimately take responsibility. Repeatedly the President has called on the American public to return to business as usual; that can only happen once the House follows the Senate's lead by passing a comprehensive Aviation Security Bill. The eyes of the American public are focused squarely on this chamber. Just recently the American Federation of Government Employees commented "Airport security, is a national defense concern. It should not be the responsibility of profit-driven companies to protect travelers, given the war-like dangers of today's world. Forprofit contractors are notorious for "cutting corners" on essential services."

The key to solving our nation's aviation crisis will not simply go away by deputizing airline screeners. The American people demand a common sense approach that will restore consumer confidence by improving airline security. However, the window of opportunity is now beginning to close; now is the time to act responsibly before millions of people choose another form of transportation during the holiday season. To ensure the attacks of September 11th never occur again this House must follow the Senate's lead and pass a comprehensive bill that strengthens employee training and security background checks. We must act now to prevent future tragedies from occurring within our Nation's borders!

Since the September 11th tragedy consumer confidence in the airline industry has virtually disappeared. Nearly every major carrier has announced that thousands of employees will be laid off over the next year. The American people continue to look to us for leadership and guidance during such troubling times. Unfortunately, the Republican leadership has squandered an opportunity to restore consumer confidence and continue the bipartisan effort to stabilize the aviation industry. Mr. Speaker, quite simply H.R. 3150 is a farce, a scam, a way to trick the American people into believing that the Republican leadership truly cares about workers and citizens

who depend on the airline industry. Anyone who closely examines the bill will find that the Republican House leadership has chosen to protect airline industry "fat cats" and ignore the voice of the American people.

Rewarding the same private screening companies that have continuously failed to protect the American public is outrageous. The Republican leadership can not pretend to have the interests of the American people in mind when airport baggage companies are poised to make millions of dollars through new contracts. The GOP bill does not mirror the language in the Oberstar amendment which federalizes airport screeners and transfers their day to day oversight from the Transportation Department to the Justice Department. The Democratic alternative takes a stand the Republican leadership refuses to take; we provide strong oversight and place the responsibility for the safety of the American people firmly in the hands of the federal government.

MEDICARE OUTPATIENT COPAYMENT REDUCTION ACT OF 2001

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to reduce the coinsurance amounts that Medicare beneficiaries are required to pay for hospital outpatient services. For most Medicare services, beneficiaries are required to pay 20 percent of the allowed payment amount, and Medicare pays 80 percent. However, for hospital outpatient services, Medicare beneficiaries are required to pay much higher copayments—up to 90 percent for some services.

These higher coinsurance levels are based on an historical artifact of the Medicare method of paying for hospital outpatient services. Prior to implementation of the hospital outpatient prospective payment system (HO-PPS) just last year, Medicare paid for hospital outpatient services based on a hospital's "costs" for those services. However, coinsurance amounts were based on 20 percent of the hospital's "charges" for those services, which were much higher than its "costs". Therefore, over time, coinsurance levels for hospital outpatient services grew until they now average almost 50 percent, and are more than 90 percent for some services.

The Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997, which mandated the implementation of the hospital outpatient prospective payment system, would have reduced coinsurance levels to 20 percent over time; however, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) estimated that this reduction would have occurred over 30 to 40 years for most services, and up to 60 years for some services. The Balanced Budget Refinement Act (BBRA) limited the highest coinsurance levels to the dollar amount of the hospital inpatient deductible in any year (\$792 in 2001); this limit affected coinsurance amounts for about 20 services.

The Beneficiary Improvement and Protection Act (BIPA) of 2000 accelerated the reduction in beneficiary coinsurance levels by reducing coinsurance in increments of 5 percent each year until it reaches 40 percent in 2006.

MedPAC estimates that without further legislation, it would take an additional 23 years after 2006 to reduce beneficiary coinsurance levels to 20 percent for all hospital outpatient services. In its March 2001 report to Congress, MedPAC recommended that the Congress continue to reduce beneficiary coinsurance in increments of 5 percent each year to achieve a coinsurance level of 20 percent in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, my bill would implement the MedPAC recommendation. It would reduce beneficiary coinsurance rates in increments of 5 percent each year beginning in 2007 until the coinsurance rate for all hospital outpatient services is 20 percent in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, high coinsurance rates are particularly devastating for Medicare beneficiaries who have no supplemental insurance. MedPAC estimates that in 1998, 14.4 percent of Medicare beneficiaries had no supplemental insurance. Most of those individuals were "near poor"—with incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid or the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program, but with incomes too low to be able to afford supplemental insurance. Thus, almost 6 million Medicare beneficiaries have no supplemental insurance and must pay cost sharing amounts out-of-pocket. MedPAC reports that the number and percentage of Medicare beneficiaries without supplemental insurance grows each year as premiums for such insurance increases, and a recent report by the American Academy of Actuaries estimated that one-fourth of recent increases in Medigap premiums are due to the costs of outpatient coinsurance.

MedPAC also reports that coinsurance amounts are much higher for certain services than others. Those with the highest coinsurance are the "high tech" services, such as radiology services and cancer chemotherapy services. Thus, high coinsurance greatly limits access to these services for "near poor" Medicare beneficiaries, and MedPAC analyses confirm that use of these services is much lower for "near poor" beneficiaries than for beneficiaries with supplemental insurance.

Mr. Speaker, it is wrong to limit Medicare services to the "near poor" simply because they are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, nor wealthy enough to be able to purchase supplemental insurance. I urge the Congress to accept the MedPAC recommendation and enact legislation to reduce coinsurance for hospital outpatient services to 20 percent by 2010.

MILWAUKEE KIWANIS CELEBRATE 85 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 14, 2001, the Kiwanis Club of Milwaukee will commemorate 85 years of dedicated and altruistic service provided to the people of our community.

Chartered in November, 1916 as the 73rd club under Kiwanis International, the Kiwanis Club of Milwaukee began as a service organization of 158 businessmen. Since its humble beginnings, the Milwaukee branch has established itself firmly within Southeastern Wisconsin while providing untethered leadership and generosity for those in need.

Committed to eliminating the devastating effects of iodine deficiency disorders (IDD), Kiwanis International launched its first Worldwide Service Project in 1994 pledging to raise \$75 million in partnership with UNICEF to eradicate this very debilitating but preventable condition. The Milwaukee Club's commitment to raise over \$60,000 for the Worldwide Service Project insured that 1.5 million individuals will not suffer from disorders including stillbirths and cretinism. This gift will also allow future generations to grow up healthy and confident that their children will reach their full physical and mental potential free of IDD.

The Kiwanis Club of Milwaukee also actively reaches out a hand to help its fellow neighbors. By working with Milwaukee Public Schools and YMCA Holton Youth Center, the Milwaukee Club has made an commitment to improve the lives of numerous youth by volunteering their time to tutor in an inner city Milwaukee school and by providing mentors, organizing book drives, and donating computers to Holton Youth Center's library to help the young participants to continually achieve success in their own lives.

Dedicated to expanding the horizons of all citizens, the Kiwanis Club of Milwaukee, along with Curative Care Network of Milwaukee, worked to form the fifth Aktion Club in the world. This innovative program gives developmentally handicapped adults the opportunity to actively provide community service throughout their neighborhood. This year the Milwaukee Kiwanis Club and Aktion Club are joining together in the annual Milwaukee River Cleanup and the holiday season's bell-ringing campaign.

Through their contributions and service projects, the Kiwanis Club of Milwaukee has established itself as an important resource for thousands of individuals. It is with great pleasure that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Kiwanis Club of Milwaukee as they commemorate this milestone, and extend best wishes for continued success in their next 85 years.

A TRIBUTE TO LETITIA HOADLEY WHITE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to pay tribute to Letitia Hoadley White, a congressional staff member who has spent two decades representing the highest values we in Congress want to provide to our constituents: courtesy, commitment and a dedication to public service.

Letitia Hoadley joined my staff on November 9, 1981, as a receptionist. She quickly showed a sensitivity toward constituents, and an eagerness to help them solve their problems. It wasn't long before people began calling our office looking specifically for "that young lady who was so nice on the phone."

Her intelligence and willingness to go the extra mile led to her promotion to executive secretary after just a month, and to legislative correspondent in less than a year. Letitia wasn't sure she wanted the second promotion—it paid more and had more responsibility, but she worried she would miss the

chance to talk to and help the people who called and came in our front door. Happily, she agreed to take the new job, and did it so well we promoted her to legislative assistant four months later.

Letitia has always been someone I could turn to for the most difficult jobs. When it appeared we would never convince Congress in 1983 to pay for a flood control project that would protect more than a million Southern California residents, she helped convince colleagues from four counties to work together—and got the project started in our district.

She has also shared with me a desire to encourage innovation and small business. Years ago, I asked Letitia to help me make sure the Pentagon provided increased funding for rapid development of a radical new technology—unmanned aerial vehicles. Through her work, we managed to move up testing and evaluation of the Predator UAV program by two years. Now, of course, it is one of the most highly touted new weapons in our war against terrorism.

After years of toiling in the legislative trenches and solving problems for my constituents and district, Letitia became an appropriations associate in 1986, and now works directly with the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. Since taking that job, she has taken the dedication to constituent service to a new level.

Appropriations staff members have a special role in Congress, helping to ensure that our government spending meets the needs of the public and stays within our budget. At the same time, they must help us to win the support of a majority of Congress, since these spending bills must pass every year. New staff members working on appropriations would do well to learn from Letitia, who has made an art of providing “constituent” service to other House members and the agencies we oversee.

She is the epitome of what we mean when we speak of dwelling on the positive. She looks for the good in people, and really works at building on their strengths. At the same time, she uses every bit of her energy to help them succeed in what they need. The members of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, on both sides of the aisle, will attest to Letitia's intelligence, hard work, courtesy and optimism. She is one of the primary reasons we are able to pass a \$300 billion spending bill with almost no debate or rancor.

Twenty years after she took her first call as a receptionist, Letitia still jumps to answer the telephone when she is in the front office. She will still spend 15 minutes talking to constituents who are in town for a visit, and then take on the most technical meetings with generals and assistant cabinet secretaries. She will undertake any job and work nights, weekends and through her vacation to get it done. And she lives by a rule I often quote: It's amazing what we can accomplish if we don't worry about who gets the credit.

Mr. Speaker, we often think of our congressional staff members as our “family,” and many times during the year they spend more time with us than their real families. We certainly owe a debt of gratitude to Letitia's husband, Dick White, for being understanding when she must work long hours—and then take more work home. I ask you and my colleagues to join in thanking Letitia for her dedication to the American people, and wishing her well in the years to come.

H. RES. 264, PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2975; TO COMBAT TERRORISM

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to object to this rule in the strongest possible terms. I believe that both the path taken and the point at which we have arrived this morning are an affront to the democratic process and are stunning examples of a breakdown in the systems that have served our country and the Congress for over two hundred years.

The issues addressed in this legislation are of profound importance to the safety and security of our constituents and to the continued safety of the country as a whole. I believe that there is no more important duty undertaken by a member of this body than to protect the welfare of his or her constituents while also protecting the civil liberties for which so many Americans have given their lives. The procedural tactics employed this morning in the name of expediency, however, threaten not only to derail a legislative process that would have resulted in a widely supported bill to protect Americans, it also threatens to undermine the civil liberties enjoyed by Americans and the democratic principles enshrined in this very chamber.

The outrage of this morning is tremendously disturbing to me and many of my colleagues. Rather than allowing a widely supported bill—passed unanimously by a committee that is often viewed as one of the most partisan in the Congress—to come to the floor for debate and a vote, the leadership of this body has decided to craft an alternative bill in the dead of night without providing the membership of the body at-large sufficient time to study its contents. I cannot understand why the leadership would threaten the wonderful spirit of bipartisanship that has flourished in the Congress over the last month by resorting to these types of procedural tactics and back-room deal making.

I arrived at the Capitol this morning buoyed by the prospects that a thoughtfully deliberated and considered bill would be presented on the floor of the House for additional debate and consideration. I was monumentally disappointed to discover, however, that the bill had been pulled and replaced by an unstudied substitute, the contents of which remain largely a mystery to even many senior members of the Judiciary Committee. At nearly two hundred pages of esoteric and technical language, the bill is beyond the length that a member of this body may be reasonably assumed to have read and understood.

By opposing this unfair rule, I am standing in support of fairness and the democratic process. I fully understand the need to implement new measures that will allow law enforcement to respond to the new threats posed to the United States by those who would do us harm, but I must urge my colleagues to oppose the rule. By defeating this rule, we will allow sufficient time to pass so that we may, in good conscience, examine this new bill and cast our votes confident that we understand its contents and its implications for law enforcement and democracy.

TRIBUTE TO KIM GREGURICH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Pleasant Hill, Illinois, as well as all Americans who have given their support to the cause of bringing home our POWs.

Like thousands of other Americans, Kim is the owner of a POW/MIA bracelet—a copper band inscribed with the name of a soldier who was either listed as missing in action or as a prisoner of war during our time in Vietnam. The name on Kim's bracelet is Lieutenant Commander Robert Shumaker, a pilot shot down in 1965. She has had the bracelet for over thirty years; she bought it to show her support of our armed forces, and promised never to take it off unless her POW was released. These bracelets were a method of putting public pressure on the Vietnamese government to send our soldiers home.

It worked. Lieutenant Commander Shumaker was released on the Flight to Freedom in 1975 in part, he says, because the Vietnamese knew how closely the American people were watching them. Ms. Gregurich heard that happy report on the radio and was finally able to take off her bracelet.

Now, twenty-six years later, she has decided to go one step further—she has taken the initiative to locate Mr. Shumaker and send him the copper band. “I wasn't sure if it would be a bad memory,” she said, “but I just wanted him to know that there was one more person thinking about him while he was gone.”

But Mr. Speaker, while Ms. Gregurich's tale is heartwarming, it is also a sad reminder—many Americans have not yet been able to take off their bracelets. There are 1,948 Americans that are still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War; there are another 58,000 whose fate we know all too well. These men and women will never come home; so, like Ms. Gregurich, I will hold a bracelet for each of them in my heart.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Gregurich and others who put their hearts into this support deserve our thanks; and them men and women who fought and died for our country deserve our eternal gratitude. May God bless them, and may God bless the United States of America.

COMMENDING THE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to note the vital contribution the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) has made to the daunting clean up task at the World Trade Center's “Red Zone,” better known as “Ground Zero.” The IUOE's National Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) Program is based in Beaver, West Virginia. I am proud to represent them in Congress as part of the Third Congressional District of West Virginia.

Don Carson, the Director of IUOE's Hazmat program, and a team of workers from the Beaver facility were among the first out-of-state

workers to be sent to work at Ground Zero immediately after the September 11th terrorist attacks. Mr. Carson has sent me heart-wrenching pictures of the twisted metal that show the depth of the tragedy and the danger of the rescue work. But that danger has not deterred any of the workers who have been involved in the rescue, and now recovery, effort.

Ever since the tragedy occurred, IUOE, and the Hazmat Center, have played a major role in the rescue and recovery effort. In fact, Mr. Carson has been coordinating the Hazmat workers' activities based out of a command post trailer parked on the right field warning track of a baseball field near Stuyvesant High School.

Today, Mr. Carson sent me an article from the New York Daily News. The article describes how Mr. Carson "has been handing out respirators, hardhats and protective vests since the attacks."

The workers' health has come into question as the long weeks pass since the attacks. They have developed a cough that doctors refer to as the "World Trade Center cough." Don Carson and IUOE's Hazmat Center are trying to tackle this. They are working with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the New York City Department of Health (DOH) to conduct a respirator fit test and orientation for all workers assigned to Ground Zero. The workers must have a DOH sticker affixed to the credentials in order to work in the Red Zone.

After the workers take their respirator fit test, they will be given an American flag hard hat.

The News article notes that these workers "battle constant danger, fumes and fatigue, as well as their own emotions. 'Our guys have seen things that God never intended,'" said Bobby Gray, 46, the union's master mechanic. "But they soldier through."

The IUOE workers have "pulled bodies from the rubble, cleared hills of jagged steel and recovered million of dollars in gold bullion trapped under the fallen towers."

The farther down the workers go below ground level, the more dangerous it gets. They must drill 8-inch cables into the concrete retaining wall—the "bathtub wall"—that circles the World Trade Center site to make sure it is anchored to the bedrock.

If the "bathtub wall" would burst, the Hudson River would rush in and flood the site. But the IUOE workers press on, risking this incredible danger as they drill the holes.

The News article follows the IUOE workers' tasks as they operate "twenty five cranes, 75 excavators and countless front-loaders, pay-loaders and machine drills." For example, crane operator Steve Nolan operates a 438-foot crane, navigating a one-and-one-half ton man-basket from inside the rig's cab.

"A crane like this is not to be run by the seat of your pants," Nolan said. "If you have an oops" on a job like this people are dead."

"Even when I'm wrecking a building, it's usually a happy job because we are replacing it with something new," said Steve Nolan. "When I sit in the crane, I ask myself. 'What kind of sick hatred could do this?'"

NORTH CAROLINA'S ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVES STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take this opportunity to recognize a great partnership of the public school system and private sector in my congressional district in North Carolina, "Bright Ideas." Bright Ideas is sponsored by North Carolina's 27 electric cooperatives. Each cooperative and their statewide association, the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, make grants directly to classroom teachers. Bright Ideas allows teachers with imagination and creativity to go the extra mile and, of course, students and the educational process are the ultimate beneficiaries.

As a democratic nation, we enjoy and cherish unmatched rights and freedom. We are a land where individuals, regardless of background and circumstances of birth, can aspire to do great things. We need more "Bright Ideas," not only in North Carolina but also throughout the nation. And we must make sure there is no pulling back, no reduction of support for our public schools as a result of the crises we face. It would be yet another tragedy if we somehow lost sight of our priorities and our public schools suffered. The Greek philosopher, Aristotle said 2500 years ago that, "The fate of empires depends on the education of youth." As we work to ensure a secure future for our nation in light of unprecedented assaults on our way of life, it is important to remember this fact.

During these uncertain times we must not lose sight of education as the foundation of our democratic and free society. We invest in our people by investing in our public education system. As we fight to preserve our way of life, public education—that solid rock upon which our society is built—absolutely must remain a top priority. And support must continue to come from both the public and private sectors.

North Carolina's electric cooperatives are as committed to the public schools and to North Carolina's classroom teachers as they were in 1994 when they made their first Bright Ideas grant. Since then, the cooperatives have made almost \$2.5 million in Bright Ideas grants to classroom teachers all across North Carolina to encourage creative instruction. This year alone they have budgeted almost \$400,000 for grants. The North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives and the 27 local cooperatives are providing the funds.

Bright Ideas projects are designed to spark the imagination of students through hands-on projects and to make learning experiences exciting, enjoyable and rewarding. In 2001, hundreds of North Carolina classrooms will become "Bright Ideas Classrooms," and 70,000 students will have unique educational experiences that would not have been possible without this investment from the private sector.

When I am asked, "What can we do to help improve public school education?" I often point to Bright Ideas as an example. This one program says a lot about the impact companies and organizations can have with a modest investment in our public schools and good

teaching. Creative partnerships are desperately needed in most school systems to provide laboratory and telecommunications equipment, extra-classroom experiences, resources for athletic teams and bands who often receive little public funding, and grants for classrooms teachers, such as those North Carolina's electric cooperatives provide through "Bright Ideas."

Bright Ideas is not a one-size-fits-all grant program. It is unique because it begins in the classroom where teachers and students put their heads together and devise their own learning initiatives. Then the teacher asks the cooperatives to fund the project they have devised.

Our President has urged us to not allow our lives to be further disrupted by the September 11 tragedies. I would add that while doing that we should make sure that our priorities remain firm. Former president Lyndon Johnson, who faced tremendous challenges during his administration, said, "At the desk where I sit, I have learned one great truth. The answer for all our national problems—the answer for all the problems of the world—comes to a single word. The word is 'education.'"

Continue to focus on improving public education. One great way to do that is to encourage public-private partnerships such as the Bright Ideas program in North Carolina that our electric cooperatives have initiated and, working closely with teachers, made so effective.

America's future is bright, and one reason is Bright Ideas. I salute North Carolina's electric cooperatives for their continuing commitment to this program that enhances teaching in our public school classrooms, and I commend Bright Ideas.

HONORING COMMANDER VINCENT WILCZYNSKI

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and pay tribute to Commander Vincent Wilczynski, an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. A resident of Old Lyme, he is a Commander in the U.S. Coast Guard, an educator, an administrator and civic leader in our community.

Joined by various members of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard, friends, and family, he was honored today by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation who recognized CDR Wilczynski's achievements throughout the years by honoring him with the "2001 Professor of the Year for a Baccalaureate Institution" award presented at the National Press Club. He was chosen from a group of over 400 extremely qualified nominees.

CDR Wilczynski is a 1983 U.S. Coast Guard Academy graduate, and received his masters and doctorate degrees from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Catholic University. He has served in the Department of Engineering for the United States Coast Guard Academy for almost nine years. During this time he has introduced innovative and creative techniques to the classrooms and laboratories. He

was instrumental in establishing the mechanical engineering major at the academy, and earning its accreditation, and has been a mentor to hundreds of cadets—many of whom are now commissioned officers.

CDR Wilczynski has also extended his dedication to teaching beyond the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. He has been a tireless proponent of community service programs that are helping to motivate elementary and high school students to pursue technical educations. He has also been teaching today's youth in high schools across the country through the FIRST (For Inspiration of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition.

Mr. Speaker, CDR Wilczynski has reached out and touched the lives of many individuals throughout the nation through his innovative teaching. He has given us 18 years of service as an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard, and continues to serve the nation faithfully.

Commander Wilczynski has truly distinguished himself and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy as the 2001 Professor of the Year. And he is the first member of the faculty of any of our service academies to be so honored in the 20-year history of this award.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of the House of Representatives to join me in heartfelt appreciation for the service this dedicated man has provided to our country.

INTRODUCTION OF SENSE OF THE CONGRESS CONCERNING THE SECURITY OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2001

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a sense of the Congress measure related to the very real and present concern for the security of our nuclear facilities in the new post September 11 era.

Throughout my public life I have represented in the Pennsylvania legislature and here in Congress the many neighborhoods and communities surrounding the Three Mile Island nuclear facility. I remember well the infamous incident at TMI in 1979. I served as a state senator at the time and, minutes after the warning came that an incident had occurred, I was at the site trying to gather information and allay public concerns. In the many years that have followed, I have worked consistently to ensure that security at TMI was

beyond reproach, and I think with great effect. Nuclear power plant security has and will always be of paramount importance to me.

It has been twenty-two years since the TMI incident. I believe the security of TMI today remains as tight as ever. However, in light of the terrorist attacks that destroyed the World Trade Center, damaged the Pentagon, and murdered over 5,000 innocent civilians, we must be even more vigilant. A recent credible threat to TMI provoked concerns on the part of many in my District about the ability of TMI and other nuclear facilities to repulse a possible terrorist attack. Happily, the threat to TMI turned out to be noncredible. But the concerns exist. I believe the Nuclear Regulatory Commission handled the incident appropriately. They assure me that future terrorist threats can be dealt with to ensure that a nuclear incident does not occur as a result. Yet, we cannot know with absolute certainty that we are forever safe from such a threat. I firmly believe that a thorough, federal study of the security measures in place now and, those needed in the future, at all of nation's nuclear facilities should be conducted immediately.

There are over 103 nuclear facilities located at 64 sites in 31 different States. Each has a different security plan registered with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, yet the overall responsibility for the security of all such facilities remains a federal issue. My legislation would reconfirm the national responsibility for nuclear plant security, and calls upon the President to order an interagency study of security at nuclear facilities be conducted immediately by the NRC, the Defense Department, the Department of Transportation, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Central Intelligence Agency.

I am pleased with the steps Governor Ridge of the Office of Homeland Defense continues to take to prepare the country for future acts of terrorism. One of those steps was to recently issue, in conjunction with the NRC, an alert to Governors to take necessary steps to bolster security at our Nation's nuclear power plants. Thirty-one States are home to over a hundred nuclear facilities. Twenty-two Governors, after receiving the Homeland Defense security alert, ordered State troopers and local officers to temporarily augment the private security at the facilities in their States. Nine Governors, including Governor Schweiker of Pennsylvania, decided to call up National Guard units to bolster security at their nuclear facilities. However, the use of National Guard forces has raised many questions. Why some States and not others? How large a force will be necessary? How long will they be there? Are they properly trained for such a mission?

Are their efforts coordinated with law enforcement and private security? And, who will fund these units?

My legislation calls upon President Bush to make the use of military forces at nuclear plants a primary focus of the federal interagency study to be commissioned. The Department of Defense and Nuclear Regulatory Commission must move forward with other relevant agencies towards developing standards to ensure that units of the National Guard, Coast Guard, Army and Air Force are used appropriately, are adequately trained, and highly coordinated with law enforcement and private security forces. Moreover, my resolution calls upon the President to recognize the need for federal funding for National Guard units called upon to perform security duties at nuclear power plants nationally. The National Guard has a unique dual role. They serve under State authority or federal authority, depending on their mission. President Bush has recognizing the national importance of protecting our national transportation system by funding National Guard units stationed at airports and train stations across the country. This resolution calls upon the President to similarly recognize the national importance of nuclear plant security by funding those units sent to nuclear power plants.

Additionally, my resolution calls upon the President to direct the FDA, NRC and FEMA to take all necessary steps to begin stockpiling supplies of potassium iodide in communities within the Emergency Planning Zones of each of the 64 nuclear power sites across the country. Potassium iodine can effectively counteract some of the more serious debilitating effects of radiation poisoning. A potential accident at a nuclear facility can result in leakage of radioactive iodine. Studies show that use of potassium iodide tablets can prevent the onset of thyroid cancer, a by-product of radioactive iodine exposure. Stockpiling of potassium iodide tablets simply makes sense. It is another important way we can do everything within reason to make sure our communities are free from the fear of insecurity.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Bush Administration for the actions taken to make America more secure. More will be done. My sense of the Congress resolution helps point the Government in the direction it must move over the next months. I thank Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. PITTS and Mr. PLATTS of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for their active support in joining me in this measure. And, I ask that all Members of Congress and the Senate support our measure.